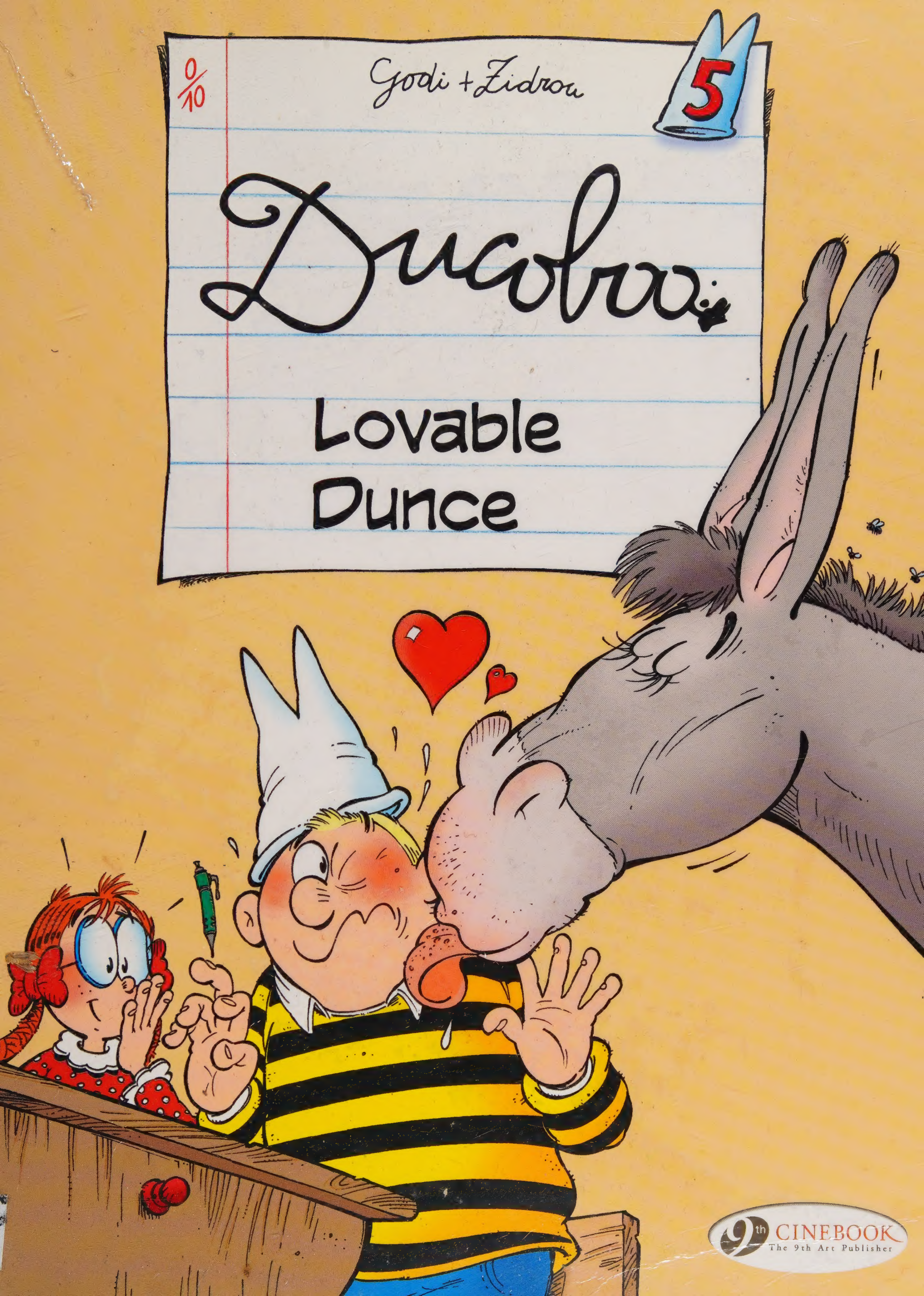

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Godi + Zidrou
5
Ducobu
Lovable Dunce
CINEBOOK
The 9th Art Publisher

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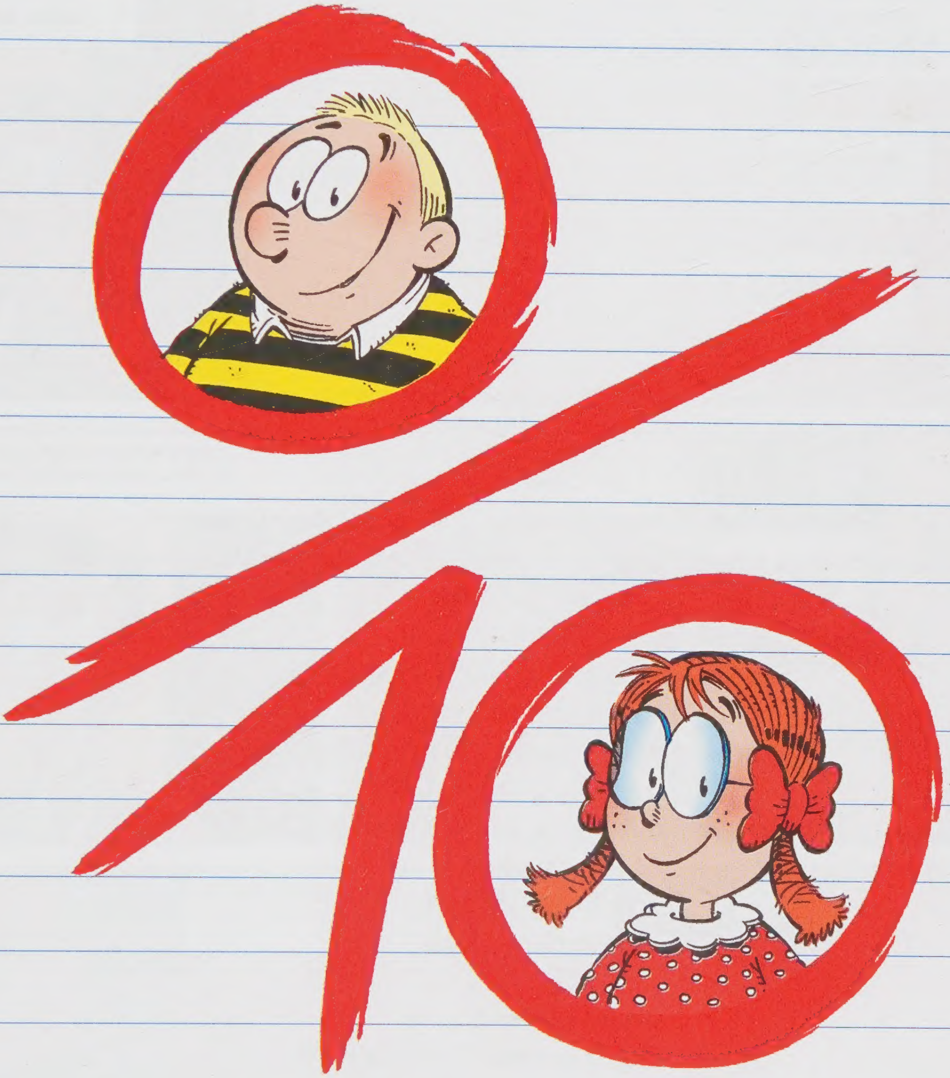
Ducobu



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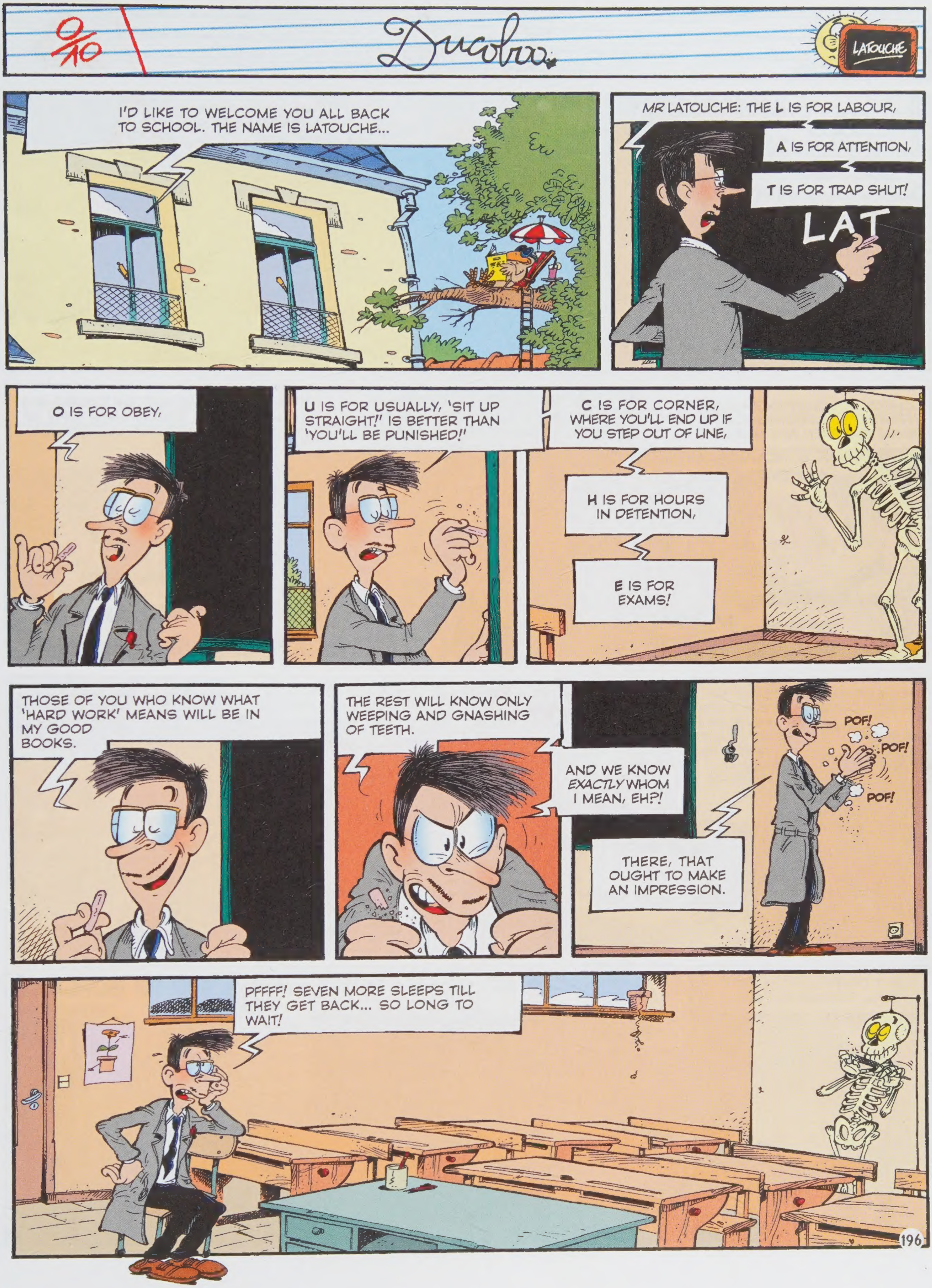
Original title: L'élève Ducobu – Un amour de potache
Original edition: © Les Editions du Lombard (Dargaud-Lombard s.a.), 2001
by Godi & Zidrou
www.lelombard.com
English translation: © 2016 Cinebook Ltd
Translator: Mark Bence
Lettering and text layout: Design Amorandi
Printed in Spain by EGEDSA
This edition published in Great Britain in 2016 by
Cinebook Ltd
56 Beech Avenue
Canterbury, Kent
CT4 7TA
www.cinebook.com
A CIP catalogue record for this book
is available from the British Library
ISBN 978-1-84918-311-6

CINEBOOK
The 9th Art Publisher



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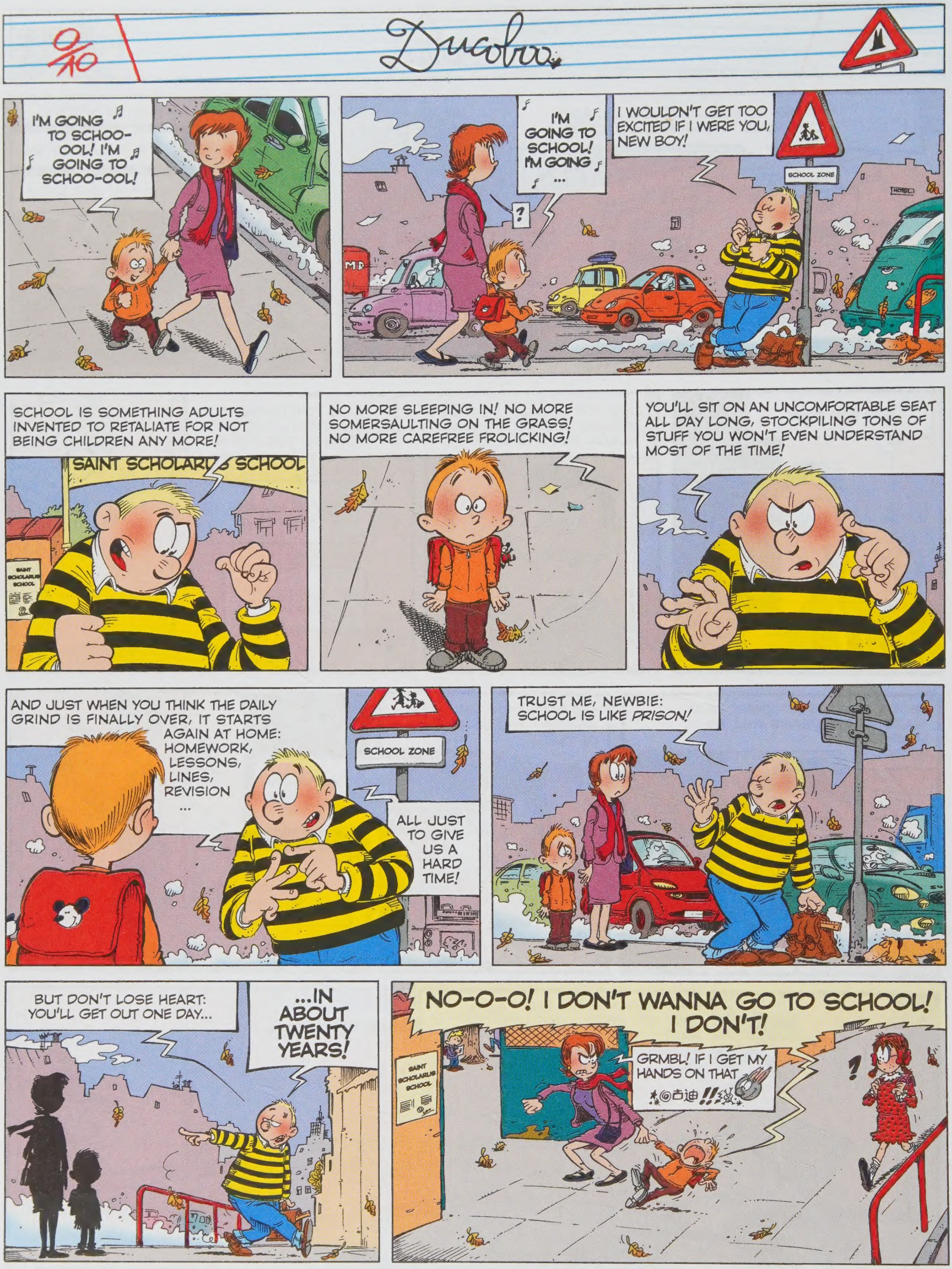
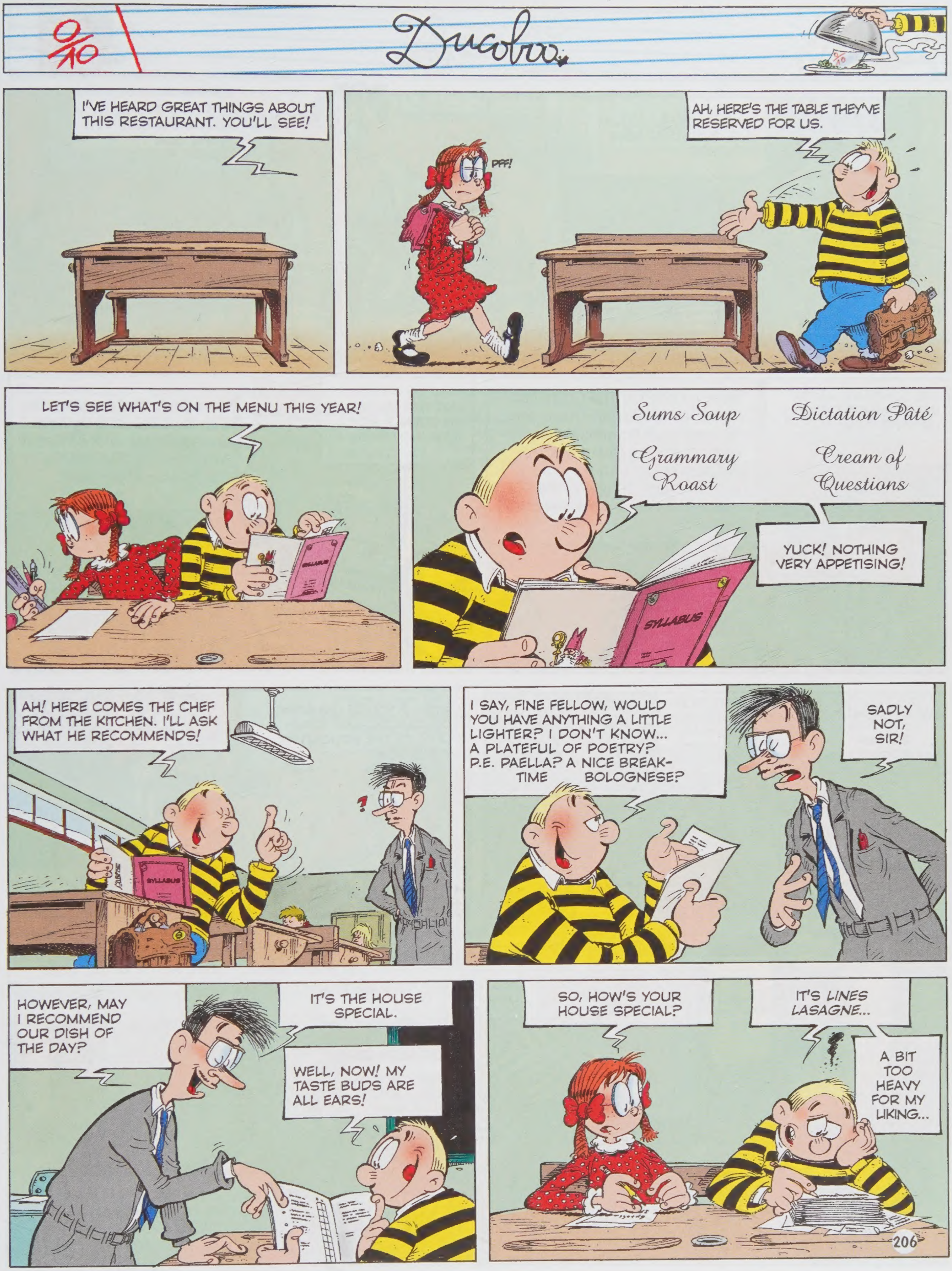
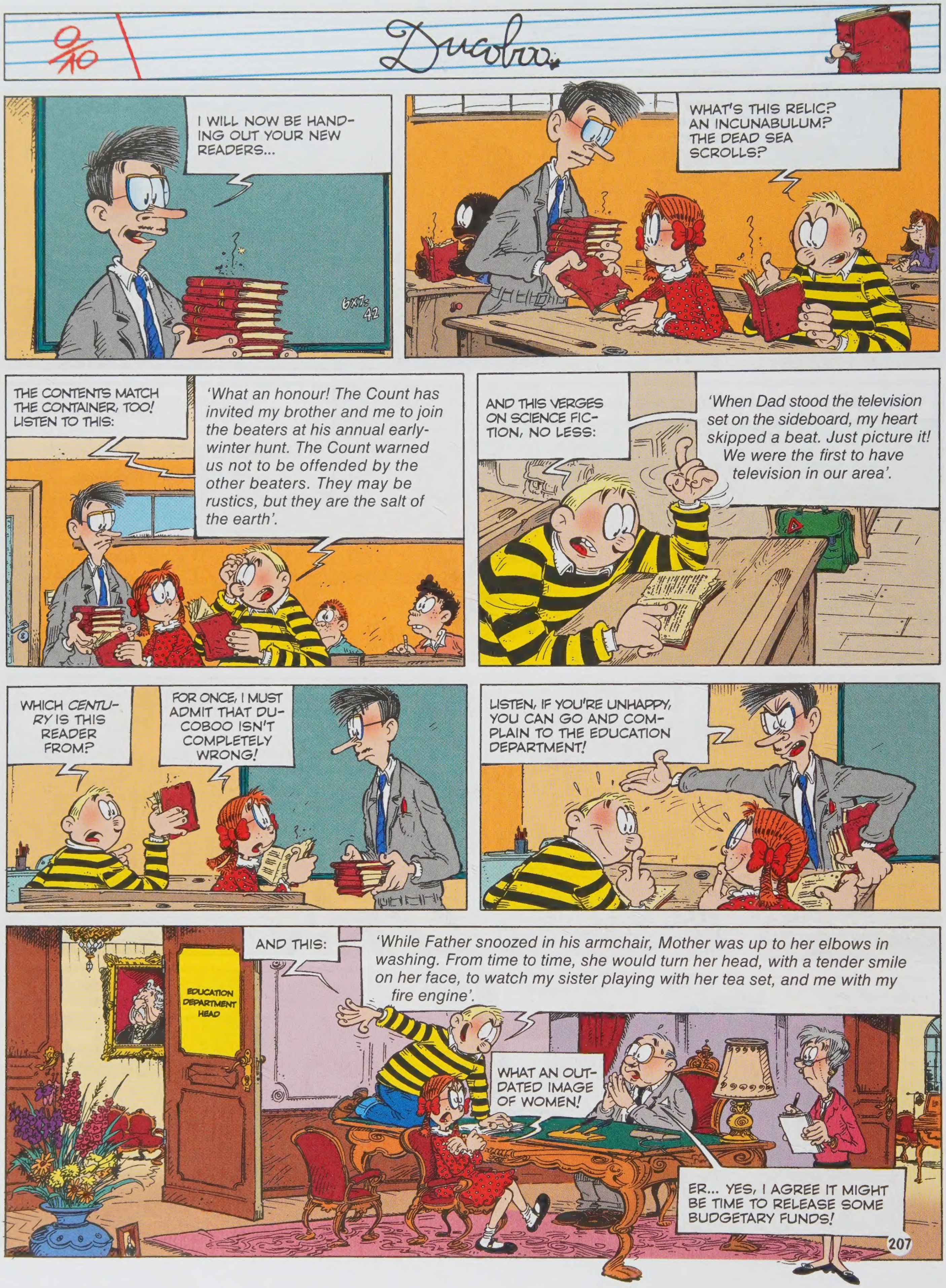
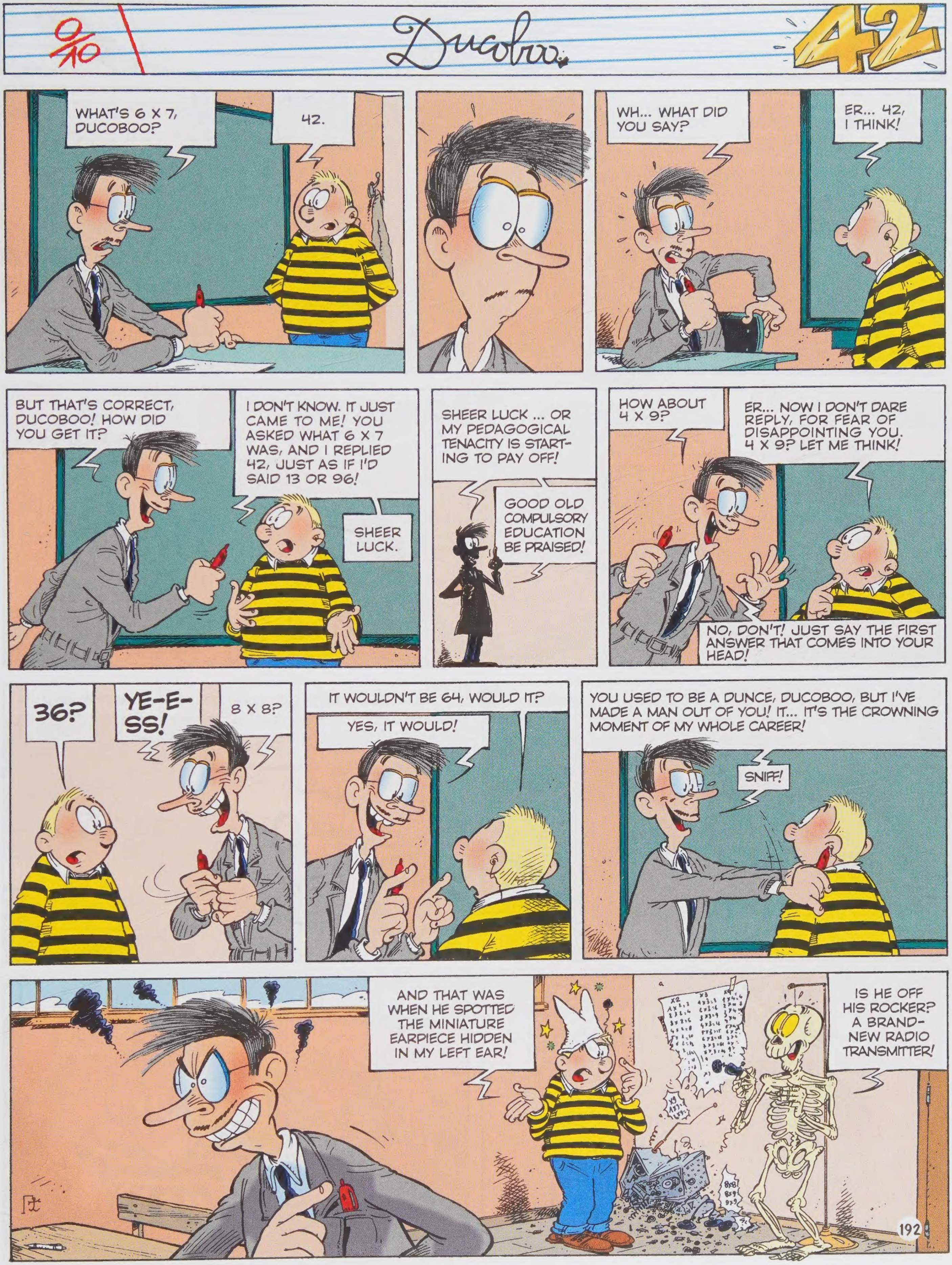
Ducobu
LATOUCHE
I'D LIKE TO WELCOME YOU ALL BACK TO SCHOOL. THE NAME IS LATOUCHE...
MR LATOUCHE: THE L IS FOR LABOUR,
A IS FOR ATTENTION,
T IS FOR TRAP SHUT!
LAT
O IS FOR OBEY,
U IS FOR USUALLY, 'SIT UP STRAIGHT!' IS BETTER THAN 'YOU'LL BE PUNISHED!'
C IS FOR CORNER, WHERE YOU'LL END UP IF YOU STEP OUT OF LINE,
H IS FOR HOURS IN DETENTION,
E IS FOR EXAMS!
THOSE OF YOU WHO KNOW WHAT 'HARD WORK' MEANS WILL BE IN MY GOOD BOOKS.
THE REST WILL KNOW ONLY WEEPING AND GNASHING OF TEETH.
AND WE KNOW EXACTLY WHOM I MEAN, EH?!
POF! POF! POF!
THERE, THAT OUGHT TO MAKE AN IMPRESSION.
PFFFF! SEVEN MORE SLEEPS TILL THEY GET BACK... SO LONG TO WAIT!
196


Ducobu
I'M GOING TO SCHOO-OOL! I'M GOING TO SCHOO-OOL!
I'M GOING TO SCHOOL! I'M GOING ...
I WOULDN'T GET TOO EXCITED IF I WERE YOU, NEW BOY!
SCHOOL ZONE
SCHOOL IS SOMETHING ADULTS INVENTED TO RETALIATE FOR NOT BEING CHILDREN ANY MORE!
SAINT SCHOLARUS SCHOOL
NO MORE SLEEPING IN! NO MORE SOMERSAULTING ON THE GRASS! NO MORE CAREFREE FROLICKING!
YOU'LL SIT ON AN UNCOMFORTABLE SEAT ALL DAY LONG, STOCKPILING TONS OF STUFF YOU WON'T EVEN UNDERSTAND MOST OF THE TIME!
AND JUST WHEN YOU THINK THE DAILY GRIND IS FINALLY OVER, IT STARTS AGAIN AT HOME: HOMEWORK, LESSONS, LINES, REVISION ...
SCHOOL ZONE
ALL JUST TO GIVE US A HARD TIME!
TRUST ME, NEWBIE: SCHOOL IS LIKE PRISON!
BUT DON'T LOSE HEART: YOU'LL GET OUT ONE DAY...
...IN ABOUT TWENTY YEARS!
NO-O-O! I DON'T WANNA GO TO SCHOOL! I DON'T!
SAINT SCHOLARUS SCHOOL
GRMBL! IF I GET MY HANDS ON THAT



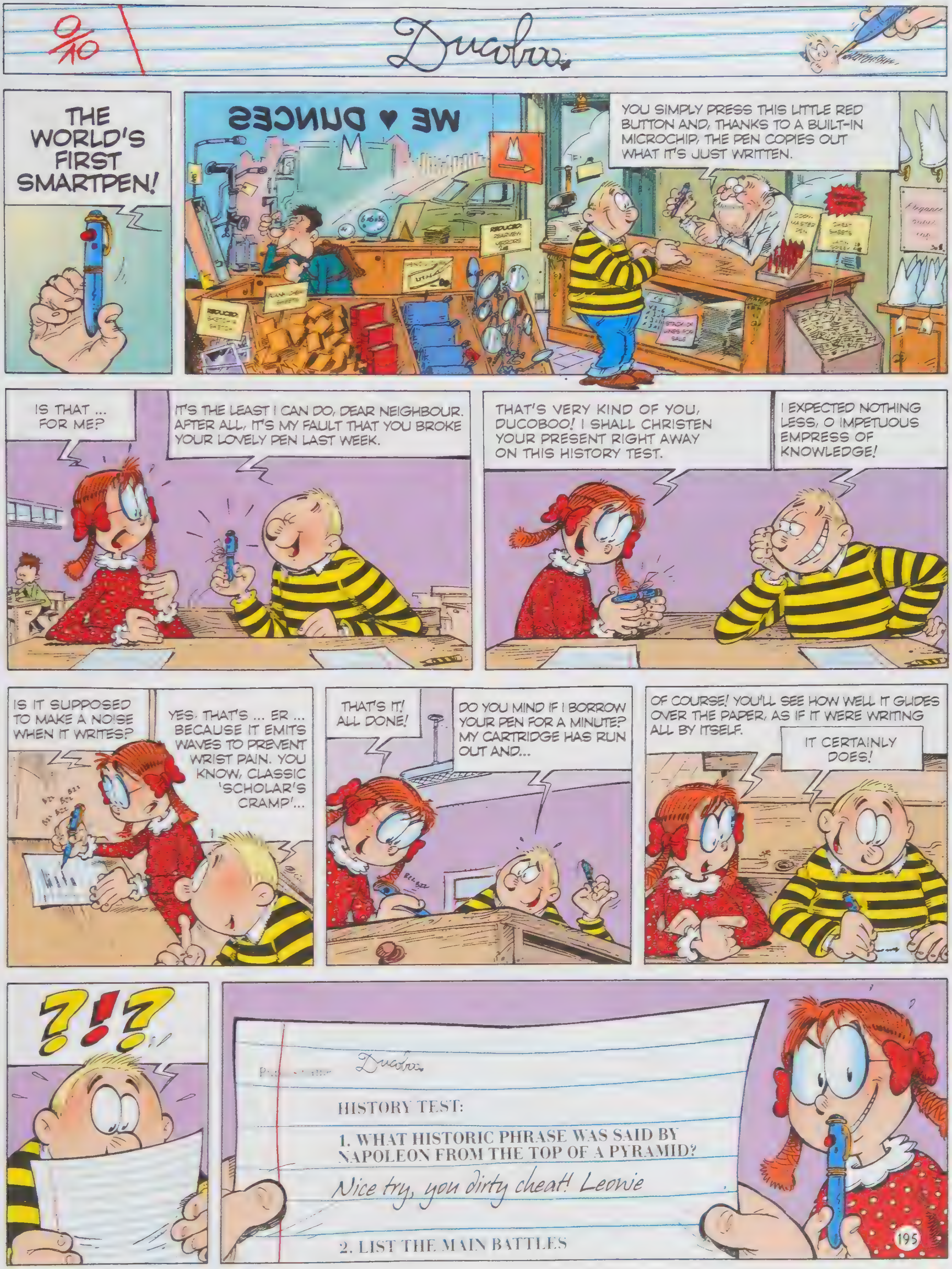
Ducobu
I'VE HEARD GREAT THINGS ABOUT THIS RESTAURANT. YOU'LL SEE!
PFF!
AH, HERE'S THE TABLE THEY'VE RESERVED FOR US.
LET'S SEE WHAT'S ON THE MENU THIS YEAR!
Sums Soup
Dictation Pâté
Grammary Roast
Cream of Questions
YUCK! NOTHING VERY APPETISING!
SYLLABUS
AH! HERE COMES THE CHEF FROM THE KITCHEN. I'LL ASK WHAT HE RECOMMENDS!
I SAY, FINE FELLOW, WOULD YOU HAVE ANYTHING A LITTLE LIGHTER? I DON'T KNOW... A PLATEFUL OF POETRY? P.E. PAELLA? A NICE BREAK-TIME BOLOGNESE?
SADLY NOT, SIR!
HOWEVER, MAY I RECOMMEND OUR DISH OF THE DAY?
IT'S THE HOUSE SPECIAL.
WELL, NOW! MY TASTE BUDS ARE ALL EARS!
SO, HOW'S YOUR HOUSE SPECIAL?
IT'S LINES LASAGNE...
A BIT TOO HEAVY FOR MY LIKING...
206


Ducobu
I WILL NOW BE HANDING OUT YOUR NEW READERS...
6x7=42
WHAT'S THIS RELIC? AN INCUNABULUM? THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS?
THE CONTENTS MATCH THE CONTAINER, TOO! LISTEN TO THIS:
'What an honour! The Count has invited my brother and me to join the beaters at his annual early-winter hunt. The Count warned us not to be offended by the other beaters. They may be rustics, but they are the salt of the earth'.
AND THIS VERGES ON SCIENCE FICTION, NO LESS:
'When Dad stood the television set on the sideboard, my heart skipped a beat. Just picture it! We were the first to have television in our area'.
WHICH CENTURY IS THIS READER FROM?
FOR ONCE, I MUST ADMIT THAT DUCOBOO ISN'T COMPLETELY WRONG!
LISTEN, IF YOU'RE UNHAPPY, YOU CAN GO AND COMPLAIN TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT!
AND THIS:
'While Father snoozed in his armchair, Mother was up to her elbows in washing. From time to time, she would turn her head, with a tender smile on her face, to watch my sister playing with her tea set, and me with my fire engine'.
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HEAD
WHAT AN OUTDATED IMAGE OF WOMEN!
ER... YES, I AGREE IT MIGHT BE TIME TO RELEASE SOME BUDGETARY FUNDS!
207



9/10
Ducoboo
42
WHAT'S 6 X 7, DUCOBOO?
42.
WH... WHAT DID YOU SAY?
ER... 42, I THINK!
BUT THAT'S CORRECT, DUCOBOO! HOW DID YOU GET IT?
I DON'T KNOW. IT JUST CAME TO ME! YOU ASKED WHAT 6 X 7 WAS, AND I REPLIED 42, JUST AS IF I'D SAID 13 OR 96!
SHEER LUCK.
SHEER LUCK ... OR MY PEDAGOGICAL TENACITY IS STARTING TO PAY OFF!
GOOD OLD COMPULSORY EDUCATION BE PRAISED!
HOW ABOUT 4 X 9?
ER... NOW I DON'T DARE REPLY, FOR FEAR OF DISAPPOINTING YOU. 4 X 9? LET ME THINK!
NO, DON'T! JUST SAY THE FIRST ANSWER THAT COMES INTO YOUR HEAD!
36?
YE-E-SS!
8 X 8?
IT WOULDN'T BE 64, WOULD IT?
YES, IT WOULD!
YOU USED TO BE A DUNCE, DUCOBOO, BUT I'VE MADE A MAN OUT OF YOU! IT... IT'S THE CROWNING MOMENT OF MY WHOLE CAREER!
SNIFF!
AND THAT WAS WHEN HE SPOTTED THE MINIATURE EARPIECE HIDDEN IN MY LEFT EAR!
IS HE OFF HIS ROCKER? A BRAND-NEW RADIO TRANSMITTER!
192

0/10
Ducoboo
2 x 3 = 6
3 x 9 =
6 x 7 = 42
6 x 4 =
8 x 8 = 64
5 x 5 =
9 x 7 = 63
6 x 5 =
6 x 2 =
I'LL BET YOU ANYTHING THAT, IF I TURN MY HEAD...
I WIN!
HONESTLY, DUCOBOO, THE ONLY VERB YOU CAN CONJUGATE IS 'COPY'!
ME? NOT AT ALL, DEAR NEIGHBOUR! I ... ER ... WAS ADMIRING YOUR NEW PEN!
REALLY? IT'S NICE, ISN'T IT? IT WAS A FREE GIFT WITH THE LATEST ISSUE OF TRALALA.
OOH, I OUGHT TO SUBSCRIBE!
AND IT WRITES REALLY WELL!
THE LEGIBILITY IS PERFECT!
SCRIBBLE!
SCRIBBLE!
JUST LOOK AT THE DOWNSTROKES AND UPSTROKES!
I'M LOOKING! I'M LOOKING!
x 5 = 25
x 5 = 30
3 x 4 = 12
TRALALA
MISS NAIVETY
MISS NAIVETY
NAIVE!
MISS NAIVETY
NAIVE!
OH, IT'S A PLEASURE TO FEAST MY EYES ON SUCH UPSTROKES!
IT'S GOT A NICE HARD NIB, TOO!
OUCH!
194


9/10
Ducoboo
THE WORLD'S FIRST SMARTPEN!
WE ♥ DUNCES
YOU SIMPLY PRESS THIS LITTLE RED BUTTON AND, THANKS TO A BUILT-IN MICROCHIP, THE PEN COPIES OUT WHAT IT'S JUST WRITTEN.
IS THAT ... FOR ME?
IT'S THE LEAST I CAN DO, DEAR NEIGHBOUR. AFTER ALL, IT'S MY FAULT THAT YOU BROKE YOUR LOVELY PEN LAST WEEK.
THAT'S VERY KIND OF YOU, DUCOBOO! I SHALL CHRISTEN YOUR PRESENT RIGHT AWAY ON THIS HISTORY TEST.
I EXPECTED NOTHING LESS, O IMPETUOUS EMPRESS OF KNOWLEDGE!
IS IT SUPPOSED TO MAKE A NOISE WHEN IT WRITES?
YES. THAT'S ... ER ... BECAUSE IT EMITS WAVES TO PREVENT WRIST PAIN. YOU KNOW, CLASSIC 'SCHOLAR'S CRAMP'...
THAT'S IT! ALL DONE!
DO YOU MIND IF I BORROW YOUR PEN FOR A MINUTE? MY CARTRIDGE HAS RUN OUT AND...
OF COURSE! YOU'LL SEE HOW WELL IT GLIDES OVER THE PAPER, AS IF IT WERE WRITING ALL BY ITSELF.
IT CERTAINLY DOES!
?!?
Ducoboo
HISTORY TEST:
1. WHAT HISTORIC PHRASE WAS SAID BY NAPOLEON FROM THE TOP OF A PYRAMID?
Nice try, you dirty cheat! Leonie
2. LIST THE MAIN BATTLES
195

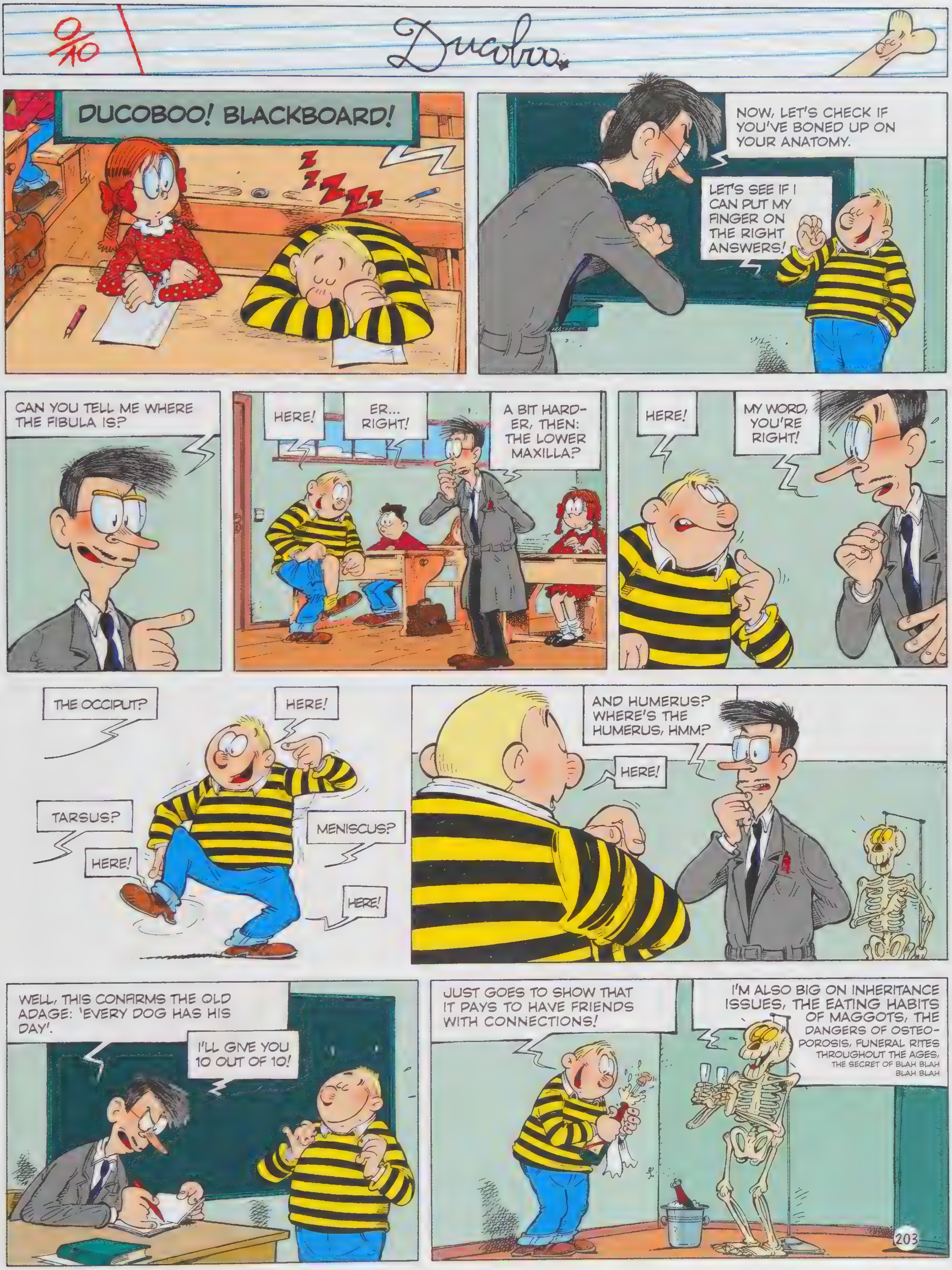
2/10
Ducoboo
OUT FOR A STROLL IN THE WOODS WITH GRANNY. I CAN'T HAVE HER GETTING LOST!
OR THINKING SHE'S A GHOS—
!?
I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED! WHEREVER I GO, YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO FOLLOW ME, DUCOBOO!
I GO TO THE BEACH, AND SO DO YOU!
I GO TO THE MOUNTAINS, AND SO DO YOU!
I GO TO THE COUNTRY, AND SO DO YOU!
AND WHEN THEY BURY ME, WILL YOU TAG ALONG, YOU LEECH?!?
YOU MUST BE A REAL DONKEY TO MUNCH HAY JUST TO PROVE HOW UNORIGINAL YOU ARE!
I'M WARNING YOU, DUCOBOO! IF YOU DARE TO FOLLOW ME AGAIN, YOU'LL REGRET IT!
?
TAP! TAP!
HEE! HEE! HEE!

0/10
Ducoboo
TAKE THAT, BLASTED GLORKIANS!
BZEEE
KNOCK, KNOCK! ANYONE HOME?
?
TAKE THAT, BLASTED GLORKIANS!
ZZEE
WELL, DUCOBOO, YOU SEEM MORE ENGROSSED IN THIS RUBBISH THAN MY HISTORY LESSON ON THE COLD WAR!
RIK SPUTNIK
VOLUME 57
ALONE VS. THE UNIVERSE
HUH! YOU KNOW, YOUR COLD WAR LEAVES ME COLD!
BUT DON'T MIND ME! CARRY ON! I AM HALF-LISTENING...
RIK SPUTNIK magazine
REALLY? THEN I'M SURE YOU CAN TELL ME AGAINST WHICH SUPERPOWER THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WAGED THE INFAMOUS COLD WAR FOR SEVERAL DECADES.
ER... A SUPER-POWER, YOU SAY?
KLIK!
THE ALLIED INTER-GALACTIC FORCES LED BY KRASSBLÜRK, SUPREME ARMY COM-MANDER OF THE PLANET GLORK!
SO WHAT WAS THE RIGHT ANSWER, THEN?
I DON'T CARE!
AT LEAST I CAN READ MY RIK SPUTNIK MAGAZINE IN PEACE HERE!
203

0/10
Ducoboo
I BOUGHT THE LATEST ISSUE OF *TRALALA*.
TRALALA
LOOK WHAT THEY'RE GIVING AWAY: A *PERFECT LITTLE GIRLS* PERFUME SPRAY!
AMAZING! TALK ABOUT A LUCKY COINCIDENCE!
THE LATEST ISSUE OF *RIK SPUTNIK MAGAZINE* COMES WITH A FREE PERFUME SPRAY TOO!
WOW!
LET'S TEST THEM!
YES, LET'S!
PSSST!
PSSST!
SNIFF?
SNIFF?
WHAT ON EARTH IS THAT ॐ✠☠ PER-FUME, DUCOBOO?
PSSST!
PSSST!
PSSST!
HURRP!
EXCLUSIVE! SPECIALLY FOR YOU: THE ODOUR OF MAXIPONGO THE REVOLTING ALIEN FROM PLANET STENCHOR!
HONESTLY, WHAT WILL THESE MAG-AZINE EDITORS DREAM UP NEXT?!
210

0/10
Ducobu
0/10
GUESS WHAT MY MOTHER GAVE ME AS A REWARD FOR MY EXCELLENT MARKS IN THE LAST TIMES-TABLES TEST.
A BARREL OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE?
A BRACELET!
AND LOOK WHAT MOTHER HAD ENGRAVED ON IT!
'IF YOU FIND THIS DOG, PLEASE TOSS HER IN THE NEAREST CANAL'?
HANG ON...
BRAVO, LITTLE LEONIE! FROM YOUR VERY PROUD MOTHER!
TOUCHING, ISN'T IT?
I GUESS YOU CAN GET ANYTHING ENGRAVED ON A BRACELET THESE DAYS!
NEXT MORNING...
LOOK, DEAR NEIGHBOUR, WHAT I GAVE MYSELF AS A REWARD FOR THE EXCELLENT MARKS I'LL GET IN THE *NEXT* TIMES-TABLES TEST!
?
BUT DUCOBOO, THAT BRACELET IS WAY TOO BIG!
IT HAD TO BE, TO ENGRAVE ALL THE TIMES TABLES ON IT!
193

0/10
Ducoboo
WASH MATIC
WOWZERS! IT'S JUST WHAT THAT MATHEMATICAL MORON DUCOBOO NEEDS!
AS SEEN ON TV
MULTY, THE DOLL WHO KNOWS HER TIMES TABLES
9x9?
81
MULTY
HELLO! COULD I SEE HOW THAT MULTY DOLL WORKS, PLEASE?
OF COURSE.
MULTY HAS TWO FUNCTIONS. FIRSTLY, SHE CAN RECITE HER TABLES...
1x2=2 2x2=4
3x2=6 4x2=8
5x2=10 6x2=12
ZIP!
SECONDLY, MULTY KNOWS THE RIGHT ANSWER TO ANY CALCULATION YOU LIKE. GO ON, GIVE IT A TRY!
6 X 7?
42!
RE-ZIP!
MARVELLOUS, EH? YOU'LL MAKE RAPID PROGRESS WITH MULTY, YOU'LL SEE!
OH, IT'S NOT FOR ME! IT'S FOR A HABITUAL UNDERACHIEVER!
FOR ME?
MULTY WILL HELP YOU LEARN YOUR TIMES TABLES! GO ON, GIVE HER A CALCULATION!
CALCULATION? ER... 6 X 7?
ZIP!
39!
INCREDIBLE! IT REALLY WORKS!
3 X 4?
5 X 5?
71!
8!
IT'S AMAZING WHAT THEY INVENT!
YOU MUST ADMIT, THIS DEFIES COMPREHENSION!
193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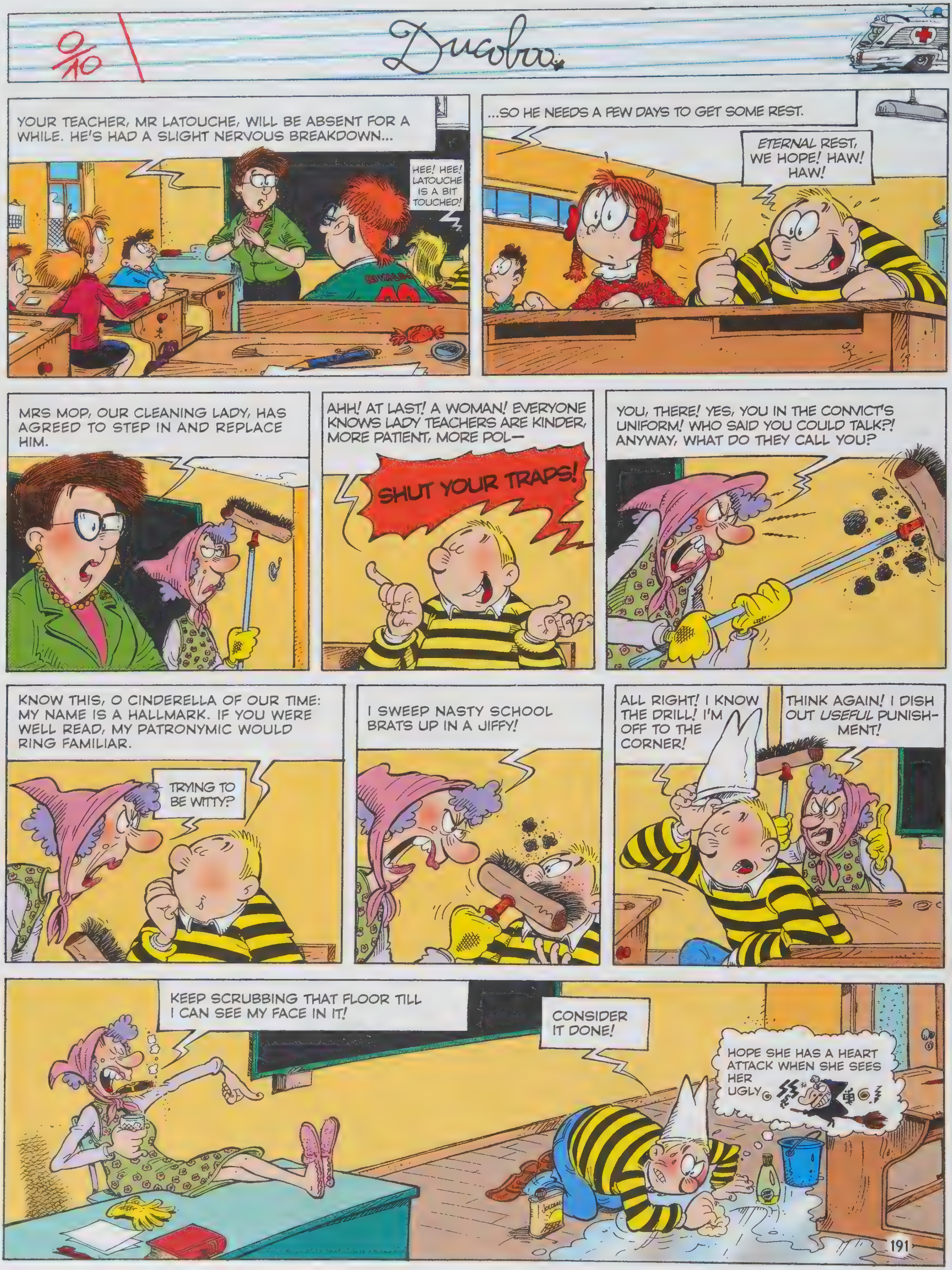
Ducobu
DUCOBOO! BLACKBOARD!
ZZZZZZ
NOW, LET'S CHECK IF YOU'VE BONED UP ON YOUR ANATOMY.
LET'S SEE IF I CAN PUT MY FINGER ON THE RIGHT ANSWERS!
CAN YOU TELL ME WHERE THE FIBULA IS?
HERE!
ER... RIGHT!
A BIT HARD-ER, THEN: THE LOWER MAXILLA?
HERE!
MY WORD, YOU'RE RIGHT!
THE OCCIPUT?
HERE!
TARSUS?
HERE!
MENISCUS?
HERE!
AND HUMERUS? WHERE'S THE HUMERUS, HMM?
HERE!
WELL, THIS CONFIRMS THE OLD ADAGE: 'EVERY DOG HAS HIS DAY'.
I'LL GIVE YOU 10 OUT OF 10!
JUST GOES TO SHOW THAT IT PAYS TO HAVE FRIENDS WITH CONNECTIONS!
I'M ALSO BIG ON INHERITANCE ISSUES, THE EATING HABITS OF MAGGOTS, THE DANGERS OF OSTEO-POROSIS, FUNERAL RITES THROUGHOUT THE AGES, THE SECRET OF BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH
203

0/10
Ducoboo
COME ON, DUCOBOO, I'M WAITING! TELL ME THE DATE OF THE BATTLE OF PYLLO!
DATE IS THE QUESTION!
!
?
ROOMY PLACE YOU HAVE HERE!
IS THE RENT HIGH?
JUST A COUPLE OF ANATOMY LESSONS A YEAR...
YOU'VE GOT A LOVELY VIEW FROM HERE!
IT'S NICE TO SEE THE KIDS PLAYING AT BREAK TIME!
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? IN THE PARIS CATACOMBS?
MR LATOUCHE, MAY I INTRODUCE MY COUSIN CLAVICLE AND UNCLE COCCYX!
THEY'RE IN TOWN FOR THE EDUCATIONAL EXHIBIT AT THE HUMAN BODY MUSEUM.
WE'VE MADE THE MOST OF THEIR WEEKLY CLOSING DAY TO VISIT OUR SKELLY!
THIS IS DUCOBOO, MY CORNER BROTHER.
WE'VE BEEN VERY DISCIPLINED, HE AND I! HA! HA!
MY RESPECTS, DEAR MADAM.
HEE! HEE!
WOULD YOU CARE FOR A LITTLE APERITIF?
A GLASS OF MILK, IF YOU HAVE ANY. IT'S GOOD FOR MY BONES.
WILL YOU PLEASE LET ME GET ON WITH MY HISTORY LESSON!?!
194

0/10
Ducobu
WHY, OF COURSE, YOUNG MAN! MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME!
HOWEVER, IF I MAY SAY...
...DURING THE BATTLE OF PYLLO, THE TROOPS DIDN'T TAKE UP POSITION NORTH OF THE TOWN. IT WAS SOUTH!
I WON'T HAVE YOU TEACHING ME MY JOB! WHERE ON EARTH DID YOU HEAR SUCH NONSENSE?
I FOUGHT IN THE BATTLE OF PYLLO, YOUNG FELLOW!
I'M GENERAL DISARRAY, OR RATHER, I USED TO BE!
I COMMANDED ALL THE TROOPS WHO'D SHREWDLY WITHDRAWN INTO THE TOWN!
WELL, NOW! AND I SUPPOSE MADAM HERE USED TO BE MARILYN MONROE?
WHAT ?
HOW DARE YOU COMPARE ME WITH THAT ... HUSSY!
OOPS... MY COUSIN USED TO BE GRACE KELLY!
WHAT? THAT ACTRESS WHO PLAYED THE PRINCESS OF MONACO?
NAME? RANK? BATTALION?
ER... LATOUCHE. TEACHER. SAINT SCHOLARUS SCHOOL.
I COULD HAVE POSED FOR CALENDARS TOO, IF I'D WANTED TO!
WELL, FALL IN, PRIVATE LATOUCHE! I'M TAKING COMMAND OF THIS CLASS!
'SURRENDER? ME?! OUT OF THE QUESTION!', I RETORTED TO THE ENEMY'S EMISSARY...
I MUST SAY, THIS SKELETON CAN REALLY LIVEN UP A LESSON!
I COULD ASK MY COUSIN TO COME IN FOR TOMORROW'S MUSIC LESSON, IF YOU LIKE. HE USED TO BE JOHN LENNON!
I'VE SEEN ALL YOUR FILMS!
1986
END

LATOUCHE IS A TOWTAL LOSER!
I must not scrawl filth
NOW WHAT?! I WROTE 100 LINES: *I MUST NOT SCRAWL FILTH* ON THE PLAYGROUND WALL — JUST LIKE YOU TOLD ME!
186

0/10
Ducobu
?
MOOT! MOOT! MOOT! MOOT!
MAY I ENQUIRE WHAT THAT 'MOOT-MOOTER' IS, DUCOBOO?
A GAME TOY.
YOU SHOULD GET OUT OF THIS PLACE MORE OFTEN!
ANY MORE 'SCHOOL SUPPLIES' LIKE THAT LURKING IN YOUR DESK?
HEY! HAVE YOU GOT A SEARCH WARRANT?
CONFISCATED!
BUT!... BUT!...
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS!
DUCOBOO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
LET'S SEE IF OUR EDUCATOR IS TENDING A SECRET GARDEN OF HIS OWN!
CONFISCATED!
BUT!... BUT!...
BOOHOOHOO!
THERE, THERE! CALM DOWN! HE'LL RETURN YOUR BOX OF CHOCOLATES!
IF YOU'RE GOOD...
196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Ducobu
YOUR TEACHER, MR LATOUCHE, WILL BE ABSENT FOR A WHILE. HE'S HAD A SLIGHT NERVOUS BREAKDOWN...
HEE! HEE! LATOUCHE IS A BIT TOUCHED!
...SO HE NEEDS A FEW DAYS TO GET SOME REST.
ETERNAL REST, WE HOPE! HAW! HAW!
MRS MOP, OUR CLEANING LADY, HAS AGREED TO STEP IN AND REPLACE HIM.
AHH! AT LAST! A WOMAN! EVERYONE KNOWS LADY TEACHERS ARE KINDER, MORE PATIENT, MORE POL—
SHUT YOUR TRAPS!
YOU, THERE! YES, YOU IN THE CONVICT'S UNIFORM! WHO SAID YOU COULD TALK?! ANYWAY, WHAT DO THEY CALL YOU?
KNOW THIS, O CINDERELLA OF OUR TIME: MY NAME IS A HALLMARK. IF YOU WERE WELL READ, MY PATRONYMIC WOULD RING FAMILIAR.
TRYING TO BE WITTY?
I SWEEP NASTY SCHOOL BRATS UP IN A JIFFY!
ALL RIGHT! I KNOW THE DRILL! I'M OFF TO THE CORNER!
THINK AGAIN! I DISH OUT USEFUL PUNISHMENT!
KEEP SCRUBBING THAT FLOOR TILL I CAN SEE MY FACE IN IT!
CONSIDER IT DONE!
HOPE SHE HAS A HEART ATTACK WHEN SHE SEES HER UGLY
191

2/10
Ducobu
IF A FEARLESS SURFACE TECHNICIAN WEARS OUT ONE MOP EVERY 750 SQUARE METRES, WHAT AREA WOULD SHE NEED TO CLEAN IF...
750m²
BORN IN 1831, DIED IN 1907, RENÉ DUSTCARTS WAS PREFECT OF THE WHOLE REGION, AND ONE OF HUMANITY'S GREATEST BENEFACTORS...
AND ONE! AND TWO! AND THREE! AND FLOOR!
GET THAT MOP UP HIGHER, DUCOBOO!
DICTATION: SPRING CLEANING FULL STOP THAT MORNING COMMA THE DELICIOUS SCENT OF BLEACH LINGERED FAINTLY IN THE AIR FULL STOP
PEACHY BLEACH
'FOR DUST THOU ART, AND UNTO DUST SHALT THOU RETURN'. THAT'S ALL VERY WELL, BUT WHO'S GOING TO CLEAN IT UP?
Dear Mr Latouche,
Since Mrs Mop has been standing in for you, our lives have become a bleachy hell! For pity's sake, come back soon! Ducobu
SOMETHING TELLS ME I'LL BE STAYING ON AWHILE LONGER!
192

0/10
Ducoboo
RASHID, PLEASE HAND OUT THESE PHOTO-COPIES!
PHOTOCOPIES! MORE PHOTOCOPIES! YET MORE PHOTOCOPIES!
YOU'D THINK OUR WRETCHED TEACHER WAS THE MAJORITY SHAREHOLDER OF XER-ROCKS!
THOSE POOR AMAZONIAN RAIN-FORESTS! TO THINK, TREES GET MASSACRED FOR THIS!
SPEAKING OF THE AMAZON, DUCOBOO, DID YOU FINISH YOUR REPORT ON BRAZILIAN HYDROGRAPHIC BASINS, READY TO HAND IT IN TOMORROW?
GULP!
ER... WELL, SOMETHING CROPPED UP... YES, THERE WAS A HITCH! MY DAD... HOW CAN I PUT IT? MY DAD'S TERRIBLY ILL AGAIN, AND...
OH! NOTHING SERIOUS, I HOPE...
THE DOCTORS ARE HEDGING THEIR BETS.
SO, DEAR NEIGH-BOUR, IF I COULD...
SAY NO MORE! MY HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN IS ALL YOURS!
IS IT TRUE WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT YOUR DAD, AT LEAST?
DUNCE'S HONOUR!
THOSE POOR RAINFORESTS!
PHOOEY! THE STATE THEY'RE IN, ONE LITTLE TREE MORE OR LESS WON'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE! HEE! HEE!
XER-ROCKS!
BZZ BZZ BZZ BZZ
XER-ROCKS! 2000
XER-ROCKS!
197

Ducobu
0/10
WHAT'S 16 DIVIDED BY 4, DUCOBOO?
I COULDN'T CARE LESS! YOU KNOW TIMES TABLES AREN'T WHAT I'M BUILT FOR!
4 — THAT'S CORRECT!
YOU SEE? WHEN YOU TRY!
HOW ABOUT 5 X 6?
TO BE HONEST, 5 AND 6 CAN BUZZ OFF, AND I DON'T CARE IF IT'S DIRTY!
30! RIGHT AGAIN! WELL DONE, DUCO-BOO!
A PARTING SHOT, PERHAPS? WHAT'S 42 DIVIDED BY 6?
I JUST DON'T BE-LIEVE THIS!
I ALREADY TOLD YOU: I DON'T CARE! LIFE WITHOUT MATHS IS HEAVEN!
7 — YOU'RE RIGHT AGAIN!
10 OUT OF 10! THAT'S A WELL-EARNED REWARD FOR YOUR EFFORTS, DUCOBOO!
WELL, MY DEAR LATOUCHE, HOW'S THAT INFLAMED EAR?
PARDON? SPEAK UP, HEAD-MISTRESS! I'M HAVING TROUBLE HEARING WITH THIS DARNED EAR INFLAM-MATION!
202

10/10
Ducoboo
WHAT'S 6 X 7, DUCOBOO?
WHAT?! DON'T TELL ME YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT 6 X 7 IS?!
!
UNBELIEVABLE! THEY'LL GIVE ANYONE A TEACHING CERTIFICATE THESE DAYS!
BUT OF COURSE I KNOW WHAT 6 X 7 IS!
GO ON THEN, TELL ME! WHAT?!
42!
HA!
THAT WAS PROBABLY A FLUKE!
AND 9 X 3? WHAT'S 9 X 3, EH?
27!
6 X 2?
12!
5 X 5?
25!
4 X 6?
24!
WELL, THAT'S VERY GOOD! I'LL GIVE YOU 10 OUT OF 10! YOU MAY RETURN TO YOUR SEAT!
YIPPEE!
10 OUT OF 10!
I GOT 10 OUT OF 10!
I GOT 10 OUT OF 10!
I GOT 10 OUT OF 10!
I GOT 10 OUT...
!?!
!
YOU WERE A GREAT TEACHER, THOUGH!
NATURALLY! AN OLD THIEF MAKES THE BEST POLICEMAN!
BANANAS
208

0/10
Ducoboo
SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR USUAL MENTAL GYMNASTICS, DEAR NEIGHBOUR, BUT COULD YOU LIFT UP THE STUFF ON THE DESK FOR A MOMENT?
12x2=24
6x7=42
5x9=45
5x7=35
3x9=27
9x2=18
?
THANKS A LOT!
I'M WARNING YOU, DUCOBOO, IF THIS IS ANOTHER 'DUCOBISM' TO HELP YOU COPY OFF ME, YOU'LL...
COME ALONG, NOW! DON'T SPOIL THE CHRISTMAS SUPPER SPIRIT!
'CHRISTMAS SUPPER' ?!
I DROP IN ON YOU UNINVITED ALL YEAR ROUND, SO FOR ONCE I'D LIKE TO MAKE IT UP TO YOU.
FOR A SWOT LIKE YOU, I THOUGHT A YULE LOG IS JUS' SWOT YULE NEED!
YUMMY! SCRUMMY! THISH FROSHTED LOG'SH DELI-SHUSH, DUCOBOO!
FINISH IT UP, THEN, AND I'LL CLEAR THE TABLE!
SO SOON? BUT, WHY?
THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE IS OVER!
IT'S TIME TO GET BACK TO THE FIGHTING!
204

0/10
Ducobu
I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'VE EVER THOUGHT ABOUT IT, BUT THERE'S ONE AMAZING GUY WHO DESERVES A MENTION...
...AND THAT'S SANTA CLAUS!
ZHOOOFFF!
BATMAN, POPEYE AND RIK SPUTNIK ARE SMALL FRY IN COMPARISON!
KEEP THE ENGINE RUNNING! I'LL ONLY BE A MINUTE!
ALL THE WORK HE DOES, AT HIS AGE... IT'S STAGGERING!
CHIM, CHIMNEY, CHIM, CHIM, CHER-EE...
AND HE'S REALLY ORGANISED, TOO!
LET'S SEE, NOW... GARGANTUA, GRAPPA... HERE WE ARE — GRATIN!
Dear Santa Claus,
I've been ever so well-behaved and very hard-working.
I got 99.99999% in my last school report.
I would really like to receive the six-volume biography of Marie Curie.
Leonie Gratin
***
THAT'S TYPICAL SANTA CLAUS: HE ONLY LIKES GOOD CHILDREN WHO WORK HARD AT SCHOOL.
HMM, LOVELY HANDWRITING, AND NOT ONE SPELLING MISTAKE!
THIS GIRL DESERVES A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA!
HE MUST HAVE BEEN TOP OF HIS CLASS AS A CHILD, I SUPPOSE...
NEXT!
1 2 3 4 5 6
205

Ducoboo
0/10
...BECAUSE IF A KID'S SCHOOL RESULTS AREN'T PARTICULARLY BRILLIANT...
LET'S SEE, NOW... BELMAN, CURRY...
HERE HE IS: DUCOBOO!
...SANTA CLAUS DOESN'T LIKE IT ONE BIT!
THOSE KIDS' STOCKINGS STAY EMPTY!
NEXT!
BUT SANTA CLAUS DOESN'T SUSPECT...
...THAT IT'S NOT JUST HIM DOING THE ROUNDS ON CHRISTMAS EVE!
CHIMNEY
THERE'S A SANTER CLAWS, TOO!
ALSO KNOWN AS 'CENTRE CLAUSE', 'SAUNTER CLOSE' AND 'SANTI KLORZE'.
WHERE THE HECK IS THAT LETTER?
Dear Santer Claws, I haven't been that well behaved or hard working either: my last report was largely made up of zeroes... But if you could bring me some thing anyway, that'd be cool! Ducoboo
THAT'S TYPICAL SANTER CLAWS: HE LIKES ALL CHILDREN, RICH OR POOR, SMART OR NOT.
HMM, HANDWRITING FULL OF PERSONALITY, AND NOT ONE SPELLING MISTAKE ... THAT I HAVEN'T SEEN BEFORE.
HE DESERVES A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA!
AND YOU KNOW WHAT?
LITTLE MUMMY
I THINK HE'S THE BEST FATHER CHRISTMAS!
PUTTAPUTT!
END

0/10
Ducoboo
2 x 3 = 6
5 x 9 = 45
42 x 6 = 252
9 x 9 = 81
12 x 2 = 24
3 x 7 = 21
6 x 54 = 324
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR TEST, DEAR NEIGHBOUR, BUT I HAVE SOME BIG NEWS FOR YOU.
I'VE GRASPED THE PRINCIPLE OF THE TIMES TABLES!
ACTUALLY, IT WAS EASY AS PIE! IT'S JUST THAT TEACHERS ARE ALWAYS DOING THEIR BEST TO CONFUSE US.
IF I TAKE ANY OBJECT... THIS SHEET OF PAPER IN FRONT OF YOU, FOR INSTANCE...
WOULD YOU MIND?
...AND POP IT INTO THIS MULTIPLYING MACHINE...
PHOTOCOPIER, DUCOBOO! IT'S CALLED A PHOTOCOPIER.
DON'T CONFUSE THE ISSUE WITH ALL YOUR FANCY WORDS!
THEN I PRESS: X6
...AND MY MULTIPLYING MACHINE GIVES ME ... 6 SHEETS!
CONCLUSION: 1 SHEET X 6 = 6 SHEETS!
THIS IS A GREAT DAY, DUCOBOO! YOU'RE FINALLY ON THE ROAD TO 10-OUT-OF-10 CITY!
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I WAS THI—
?
ER, DEAR NEIGHBOUR! MAY I BORROW YOUR PAPER AGAIN, SO I CAN REPEAT THE EXPERIMENT? IT WAS THE WRONG SIDE UP: I PHOTOCOPIED THE BACK OF YOUR TEST AND...
AND HOW ABOUT MY PUNCH-MULTIPLYING MACHINE? DO YOU WANNA GIVE IT A TRY?
201

0/10
Ducobu
Fig 297
HEY, YOU FOUR-EYED APE!
UM, ARE YOU TALKING TO ME?
HAVE A BANANA, YOU FOUR-EYED APE!
HAW!
HAW!
WHY DON'T YOU GET GLASSES YOURSELF, YOU STUPID GREAT GORILLA!
D-DUCOBOO? IT'S SO KIND OF YOU TO STICK UP FOR ME!
ALLOW ME, DEAR NEIGHBOUR! I'M NOT THROUGH WITH THIS BONEHEAD YET!
IN CASE YOU HADN'T NOTICED, YOU PRIMATE, LEONIE GRATIN IS A *GIRL*!
YOU DON'T SAY 'FOUR-EYED APE'. IT'S 'FOUR-EYED **SHE**-APE'!
OH, YEAH! YOU'RE RIGHT!
DEAR NEIGHBOUR, PLEASE! LIKE I SAID, IT WAS ONLY SECOND-RATE HUMOUR!
HUH! HUMOUR MUST BE LIKE BURNS, THEN: SECOND-DEGREE HURTS EVEN MORE!
212

9/10
Ducobu
BOOHOOHOO! I'M A FOUR-EYED SHE-APE!
NO, YOU AREN'T!
I WANT TO CHANGE THE WAY I LOOK!
SNIFF!
?
HAIR FORCE
HAIR FORCE
LENS-O-RAMA
LENSES FOR LIFE!
TINTED LENSES
LENS-O-RAMA
TOYS
FLASH RAGS
NEW FLASH RAGS
FLASH RAGS
NEW FLASH RAGS
MY, OH MY! THAT CERTAINLY IS A CHANGE!
WATCH YOUR EYES!
?
SORRY, MISS! THAT SEAT'S RESERVED FOR MY DEAR NEIGHBOUR, LEONIE GRATIN.
!
MY SURVIVAL'S AT STAKE HERE, YOU KNOW!

9/10
Ducobu
BUT ... I AM LEONIE GRATIN!
RIK SPUTNIK MAGAZINE
HA! HA! MAYBE TO SOME FOLKS, BUT NOT TO ME!
THANKS TO COPYING OFF HER, I KNOW MY NEIGHBOUR ONLY TOO WELL!
LEONIE'S NOT THE TYPE TO THINK I'D JUDGE A COMIC BY ITS COVER. NOT HER!
RIK SPUTNIK MAGAZINE
BUT I'VE HEARD THAT YOU'RE ALWAYS TEASING HER!
IT'S NOT HER GIRLY SIDE I'M MOCKING, IT'S THE DUMB INTELLECTUAL.
GET IT?!
IN A WORLD WHERE APPEARANCE TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER SUBSTANCE, LEONIE HAS THAT RAREST OF QUALITIES:
SHE'S AUTHENTIC!
KISS THE BIG BAD LOOK GOODBYE!
GRR! CURSE THIS HAIR DYE!
THANKS FOR KEEPING MY SEAT, DUCOBOO!
AH, YOU'RE BACK AT LAST, DEAR NEIGHBOUR! HURRY NOW! MR LATOUCHE IS HANDING OUT THE TEST QUESTIONS!
IT JUST GOES TO SHOW HOW A DIRTY CHEAT AT SCHOOL CAN STILL BE YOUR BEST FRIEND!
END

0/10
Ducobu
MUSEUM
GALLIMAUFRY MUSEUM
MASTERPIECE BLAH BLAH BLAH INSPIRATION BLAH BLAH BLAH VISION BLAH BLAH BLAH ART BLAH BLAH BLAH CREATION BLAH BLAH BLAH EXPIRATION BLAH BLAH BLAH
ISN'T THIS STATUE TOUCHING, DUCOBOO? YOU CAN ALMOST HEAR HIM CRYING!
'ORPHANED' BY AUGUSTE RODEOUT (1857–1919).
THIS AUGUSTE GUY WASN'T EXACTLY A BARREL OF LAUGHS!
ORPHANED
AUGUSTE RODEOUT
(1857–1919)
SNIFF! IT'S SAD TO BE AN ORPHAN...
YEAH, ESPECIALLY FOR THE PARENTS!
GIVE ME A HAND, DEAR NEIGHBOUR! LET'S HELP YOUR BRONZE BUDDY GET HIS SMILE BACK!
HIS SMILE? BUT ... HOW?
!?
Adopted
COME, DEAR NEIGHBOUR. I THINK I SAW MIKE LANGELOW'S 'WEEPING WIDOW' FURTHER ON. LOOKS LIKE SHE COULD USE OUR HELP TOO!
GOOD IDEA!
199

0/10
Ducoboo
DUCOBOO!
ME, SIR!
OH, COME ON! CAN'T I EVER GET FIVE MINUTES' PEACE?
RIK SPUTNIK
SO, DUCOBOO, WHAT DOES MARCH THE 21ST MEAN TO YOU?
ER... ISN'T IT THE DAY AFTER MARCH THE 20TH?
MARCH 21
COME, NOW, DUCOBOO! MARCH THE 21ST! FLOWERS! LITTLE BIRDS AND ALL THAT!
WHAT, IS IT THE NATURAL HISTORY TEST TODAY?
MARCH 21
ARE YOU DOING THIS ON PURPOSE? MARCH THE 21ST, FIRST DAY OF SP—? SP—?
SPATULA?
GOOD GRIEF! MARCH THE 21ST! OF COURSE! IT'S SO OBVIOUS, I DIDN'T THINK OF IT!
ON MARCH THE 21ST, 1901, THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALLY APPROVED THE CONSTRUCTION OF A RAILWAY FROM DAR ES SALAAM TO MOROGORO IN EAST AFRICA, TO BE FINANCED BY DRESDNER BANK.
A POIGNANT MEMORY, IF EVER THERE WAS ONE!
TH-THAT'S ABSOLUTELY CORRECT!
OF COURSE IT'S CORRECT! WHOM DO YOU TAKE ME FOR?
MARCH 21
HISTORY
IT'S NOT THE ANSWER I EXPECTED, BUT IT'S DEFINITELY WORTH **10 OUT OF 10!**
I'D RATHER YOU GAVE THE POINTS TO A NEEDIER PUPIL.
THAT 10 WOULD ONLY RUIN MY TRACK RECORD!
MARCH 21
MARCH THE 21ST: A HISTORICAL DATE THAT SAW DUCOBOO, THE NOTORIOUS DUNCE, LAND HIS FIRST-EVER 10 OUT OF 10 BY SKILFULLY BLUFFING HIS TEACHER!
ER... GULP! QUICK, DEAR NEIGHBOUR, HIDE THAT!
WHAT HAPPENED THAT DAY? MARCH THE 21ST
RIK SPUTNIK

0/10
Ducoboo
IT REMINDS ME OF THAT AESOP'S FABLE. YOU KNOW, THE ONE ABOUT THE ANT AND...
...THE GRASSHOPPER.
SHOOBADOOWOP!
SLURP!
WHEN EXAM TIME CAME, THE GRASSHOPPER FOUND HIMSELF SEVERELY LACKING.
GULP!
EXAMINATION
NOT EVEN A TINY LITTLE ANSWER TO NIBBLE ON!
PLEASE CAN WE USE OUR TEXTBOOKS?
STOP BEING SILLY AND WORK, DUCO-BOO!
SO HE WENT TO BEG HIS FANTASTIC NEIGHBOUR FOR FOOD.
ER... SORRY TO BOTHER YOU, DEAR NEIGHBOUR, BUT I'M SORT OF DESPERATE HERE...
KNOCK! KNOCK!
THE ANT WAS NOT A LENDER. THAT WAS THE LEAST OF HER FAULTS, THE GRASSHOPPER FELT.
WHAT WERE YOU DOING ALL LAST SCHOOL YEAR, YOU LOUSE?
HEY, I'M MEANT TO BE THE GRASSHOPPER!
WERE YOU HAVING FUN?
WELL, YOU CAN GO WHISTLE NOW! I WON'T HELP YOU!
STRONG INSECTICIDE FOR ANTS? OF COURSE, YOUNG MAN! WHAT KIND OF ANTS DO YOU WANT TO BATTLE?
A RED ONE WITH WHITE SPOTS AND GLASSES!

0/10
Ducoboo
DEAR PUPILS, FINALLY — THE MOMENT YOU'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR!
MISTER LATOUCHE'S CLASSROOM
EH? HUH? WHAT? IS IT BREAK TIME ALREADY?
I'M HANDING OUT YOUR END-OF-YEAR REPORTS!
GOODBYE, CRUEL WORLD!
HOWEVER, I'VE DECIDED TO BE *INNOVATIVE* THIS YEAR!
WHY? ARE YOU FINALLY GOING TO SHOW SOME SIGN OF INTELLIGENCE?
DUCOBOO, YOU'LL WRITE ME 100 LINES!
NO PROBLEMO! HERE ARE YOUR RATIONS, MR GREEDY!
BUT ... HOW?
I GOT A BIT AHEAD OF MYSELF!

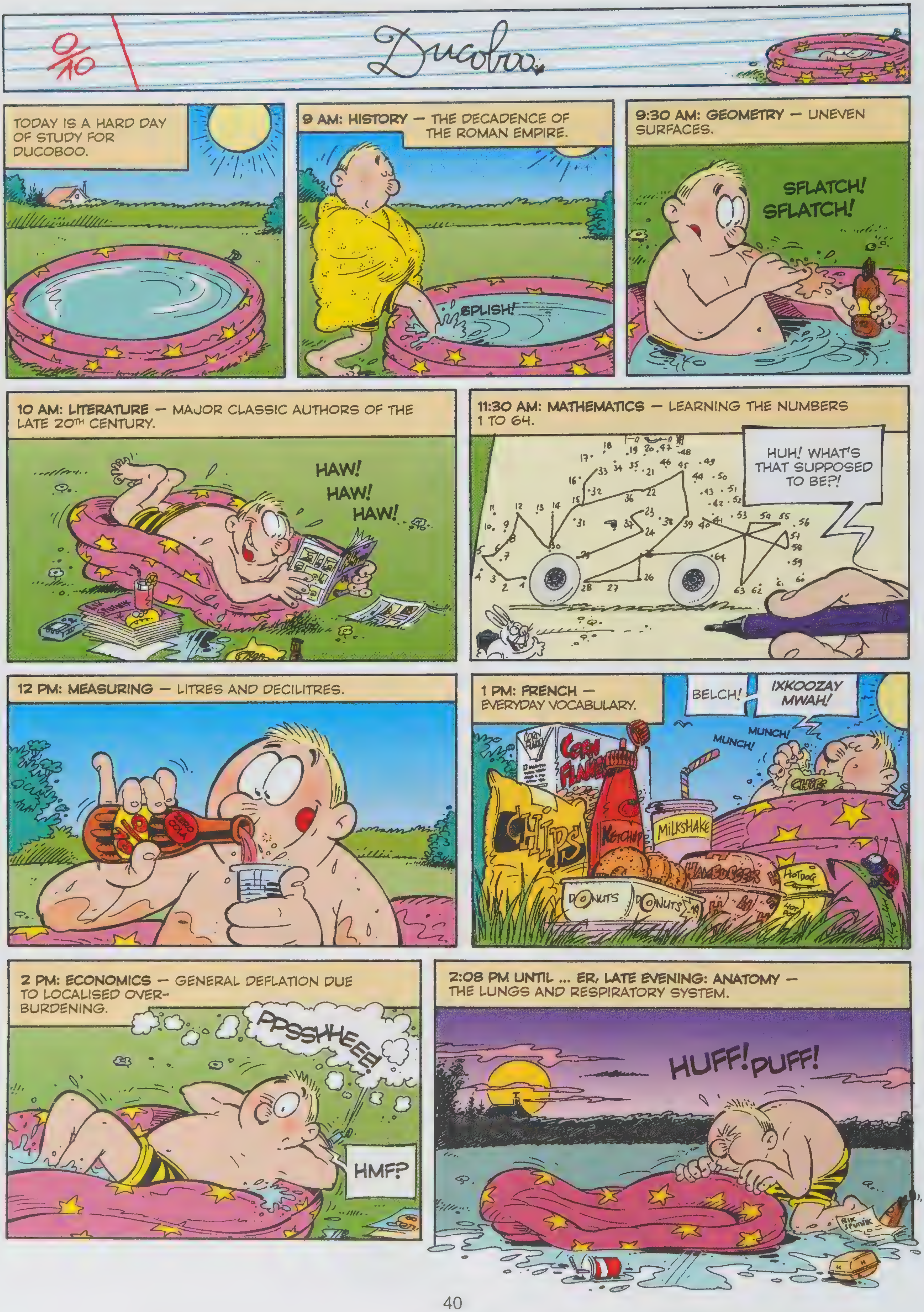
CONTINUED →

ER... NOW, WHERE WAS I?
YOU WERE REFERRING TO A PEDAGOGICAL INNOVATION TO WHICH YOU HOLD THE KEY, DEAR MR LATOUCHE!
OH, YES! THAT'S RIGHT! VERY GOOD, LEONIE GRATIN. THAT'S 10 OUT OF 10 FOR EFFORT!
COLLABORATOR!
LOSER!
AS I WAS SAYING: IT'S TIME FOR INNOVATION! NO MORE PERPETUAL PAPER REPORTS! TIME FOR...
PSST! MR LATOUCHE!
WILL I BE GETTING MY SCHOOL GRADES TOO?
YOUR... YOUR SCHOOL GRADES?
SURE! I SPENT THE YEAR IN YOUR CLASSROOM LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE. I ATTENDED LESSONS LIKE THEY DID — WITH HALF AN EAR, ADMITTEDLY. SO IT'S ONLY NATURAL I SHOULD BE GRADED LIKE THE OTHERS!
HEY! TEACHING AID! BE QUIET OR YOU'LL END YOUR CAREER IN THE DOG'S BOWL!
NOT THE DOG'S BOWL! NOT THE DOG'S BOWL!
CONTINUED

ER... NOW, WHERE WAS I?
YOU WERE SPEAKING WITH GREAT STYLE ABOUT DOING AWAY WITH PAPER REPORTS, MR LATOUCHE.
OH, YES! THAT'S RIGHT! VERY GOOD, LEONIE GRATIN. THAT'S 10 OUT OF 10 FOR EFFORT!
BUT YOU ALREADY GAVE ME 10 OUT OF 10 FOR EFFORT, SIR!
WELL, IN THAT CASE, IT'S 20 OUT OF 10!
HERE, DEAR NEIGHBOUR!
WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S TO HELP WITH YOUR FAVOURITE SPORT!
MY FAVOURITE SPORT
?
POLISHING HIS BOOTS
!
SO, I'M INNOVATING THIS YEAR! GET READY FOR A SIZEABLE SURPRISE.
XXL-SIZE, TO BE PRECISE!
I'VE HAD T-SHIRTS PRINTED WITH YOUR RESULTS! 100% COTTON!
AM I DREAMING? JUST THINK OF THE HUGE SALARY THE MAN GETS FOR COMING UP WITH IDEAS LIKE THAT!
NOW, TO GIVE CREDIT WHERE IT'S DUE, LET'S START AT THE TOP OF THE CLASS...
LEONIE GRATIN!
ME?
WELL DONE, LEONIE! YET AGAIN, YOU SPARKLED WITH MYRIAD GLINTS, DIAMOND-LIKE!
A ROUGH DIAMOND IS NOTHING WITHOUT A SKILLED DIAMOND-CUTTER!
99.9999%
CONTINUED

NOW, MOVING TO THE OTHER END OF THE CLASS! FOREVER AT THE BACK OF THE SCHOLARLY PACK, THAT HABITUAL RECEIVER OF ZEROES...
99.9999%
I NAME: DUCOBOO!
ME?
ONCE AGAIN, DUCOBOO, YOU WERE TRUE TO FORM — I.E., USELESS!
VERY FETCHING FASHIONS THIS YEAR!
OVER THE SUMMER, EVERYONE WILL BE ABLE TO SEE WHAT AN EDUCATIONAL DISASTER YOU ARE!
0.0099%
SEE HOW CLEVER IT IS, DUCOBOO? MR LATOUCHE EVEN INCLUDED A SPACE FOR OUR PARENTS TO SIGN.
NO USE BRAGGING LIKE THAT, DEAR NEIGHBOUR! ALL IN ALL, THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOU AND ME IS REALLY RATHER SMALL!
99.9999%
0.0099%
?
!
SNIP! SNIP! SNIP! SNIP! SNIP!
99.9999%
MY PROOF!
FINE, I SEE... BACK TO GOOD OLD PAPER REPORTS IT IS!
99.9999%
99%
REPORT
MISTER LATOUCHE'S CLASS
END

Ducobu
9/10
THAT'S IT! SUMMER IS HERE!
ALL THOSE NEVER-ENDING WEEKS OUT OF YOUR NATURAL HABITAT!
YOU'LL FADE AWAY, DEAR NEIGHBOUR!
NOT AT ALL! MOTHER'S GOT A RANGE OF HEALTHY ACTIVITIES LINED UP FOR ME.
FIRST TWO WEEKS OF JULY: INTENSIVE COMPUTING COURSE.
JULY 15 TO 31: CONVERSATIONS IN ENGLAND.
DIARY
AUGUST: PRIVATE LESSONS ON THE COMPARATIVE STUDY OF COURT LITERATURE AND THE PRINCIPLES OF AMERICAN ECONOMICS.
THEN I'LL MAKE THE MOST OF OUR LAST FEW DAYS OFF TO GET AHEAD A LITTLE ON NEXT YEAR'S SYLLABUS.
AND YOU, DUCOBOO?
OOOOFFFF! I'VE GOT A CRAZY SCHEDULE FOR THE SUMMER TOO!
FIRST TWO WEEKS OF JULY: INTENSIVE VIDEO-GAMING COURSE.
JULY 15 TO 31: RELAXATIONS IN BERMUDA.
AUGUST: PRIVATE LESSONS ON THE COMPARATIVE STUDY OF AIRPORT LITERATURE AND THE PRINCIPAL AMERICAN COMICS.
THEN I'LL MAKE THE MOST OF OUR LAST FEW DAYS OFF TO GET BEHIND A LITTLE ON NEXT YEAR'S SYLLABUS.
CAREFUL! WON'T YOU BE OVER-LOADED?
HUH! I'LL HAVE THE WHOLE SCHOOL YEAR TO GET OVER IT!
195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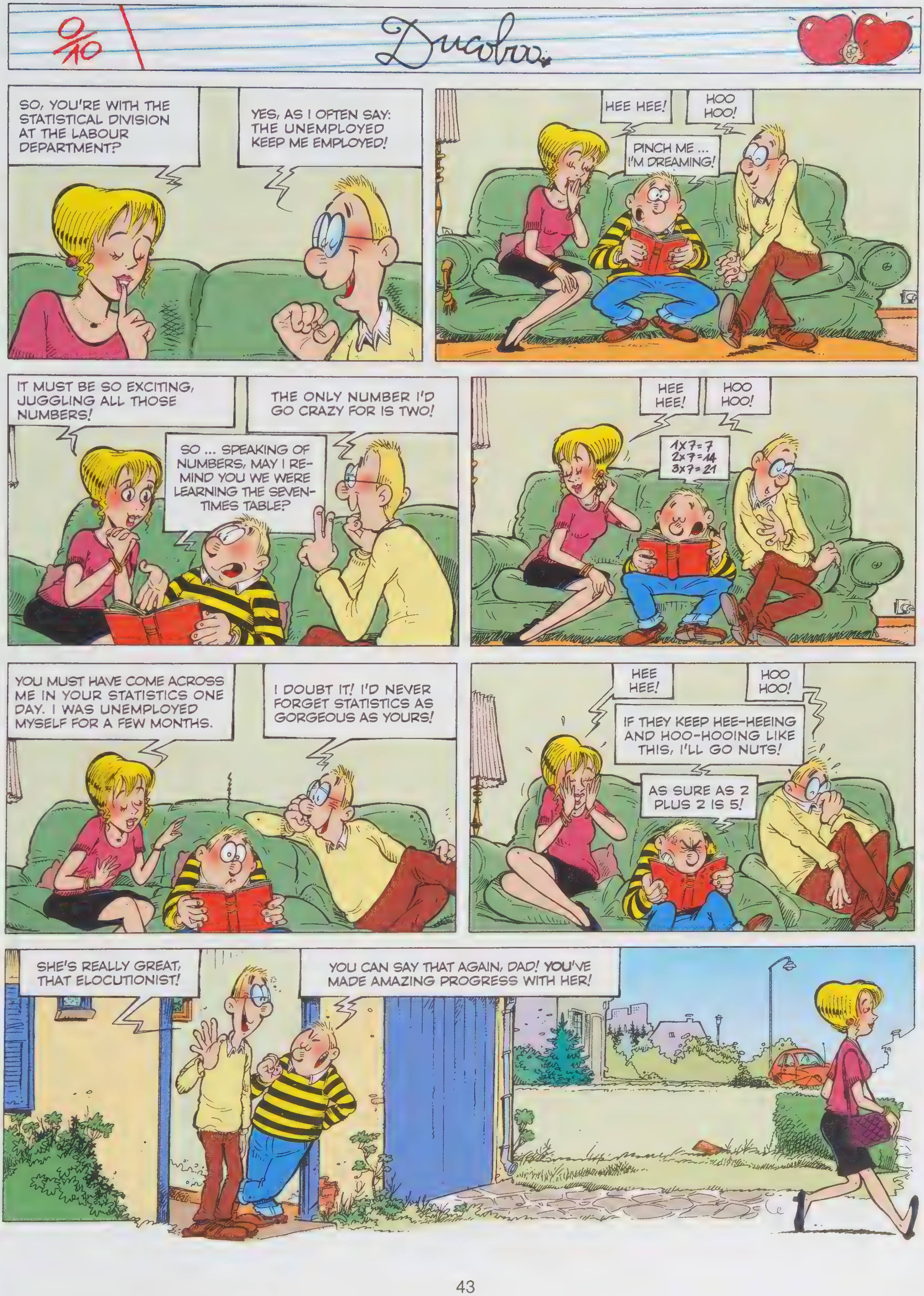
Ducoboo
TODAY IS A HARD DAY OF STUDY FOR DUCOBOO.
9 AM: HISTORY — THE DECADENCE OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE.
SPLISH!
9:30 AM: GEOMETRY — UNEVEN SURFACES.
SFLATCH! SFLATCH!
10 AM: LITERATURE — MAJOR CLASSIC AUTHORS OF THE LATE 20TH CENTURY.
HAW! HAW! HAW!
11:30 AM: MATHEMATICS — LEARNING THE NUMBERS 1 TO 64.
HUH! WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO BE?!
12 PM: MEASURING — LITRES AND DECILITRES.
ZERO COLA
1 PM: FRENCH — EVERYDAY VOCABULARY.
BELCH!
IXKOOZAY MWAH!
MUNCH! MUNCH!
CORN FLAKES
CHIPS
KETCHUP
MILKSHAKE
DONUTS
DONUTS
HAMBURGER
HOTDOG
2 PM: ECONOMICS — GENERAL DEFLATION DUE TO LOCALISED OVER-BURDENING.
PPSSHHEEE!
HMF?
2:08 PM UNTIL ... ER, LATE EVENING: ANATOMY — THE LUNGS AND RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.
HUFF! PUFF!

0/10
Ducobu
HERE'S PROOF THAT NATURE BEATS ANY OLD SPECIAL EFFECTS...
GOSH!
IT LOOKS LIKE THAT DEAR OLD BAG OF BONES, SKELLY!
AND THAT ONE! HEE HEE! IT'S LIKE THAT SNOOTY LEONIE GRATIN!
AND NOW FOR OUR STAR ATTRACTION: A SPLENDID CUMULO-DUCOBUS!
BY THUNDER! THAT BIG STORM CLOUD LOOKS LIKE...
MISTER LATOUCHE!
PHBTHBTH!
KABOOM!
BOOM! KABOOM! BOOM! KABOOM!
THAT TEACHER REALLY HAS A KNACK FOR RAINING ON MY PARADE!

0/10
Ducoboo
THAT'S ENOUGH THIS TIME, SON!
SINCE SUMMER BEGAN, YOU'VE BEEN WALLOWING IN THAT POOL LIKE A HIPPO IN MUD, INSTEAD OF STUDYING TO CATCH UP WITH YOUR SCHOOLWORK.
RIK SPUTNIK
BUT NOW I'VE DECIDED TO CLAMP DOWN, AT ALL COSTS!
DON'T LAUGH!
AS OF TODAY, FOR EIGHT HOURS A DAY, A LADY WILL BE GIVING YOU SPEECH LESSONS, SO YOU DON'T BABBLE ON.
NICE PLACE, BABYLON. I'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF A TRIP THERE.
RIK SPUTNIK
DING! DONG!
AHA! YOUR FINAL HOUR OF REST HAS STRUCK, SON!
MR DUCOBOO? HELLO! I'M VALENTINA FOX, THE ELOCUTIONIST.
ELOELO? CUCU?
HEY, I THOUGHT THESE PRIVATE LESSONS WERE FOR ME!
GARGULP ZBLU?
GRACIOUS ME! IT'S A GOOD THING YOU CALLED ME IN. YOUR ELOCUTION ISSUES ARE ALARMING!
O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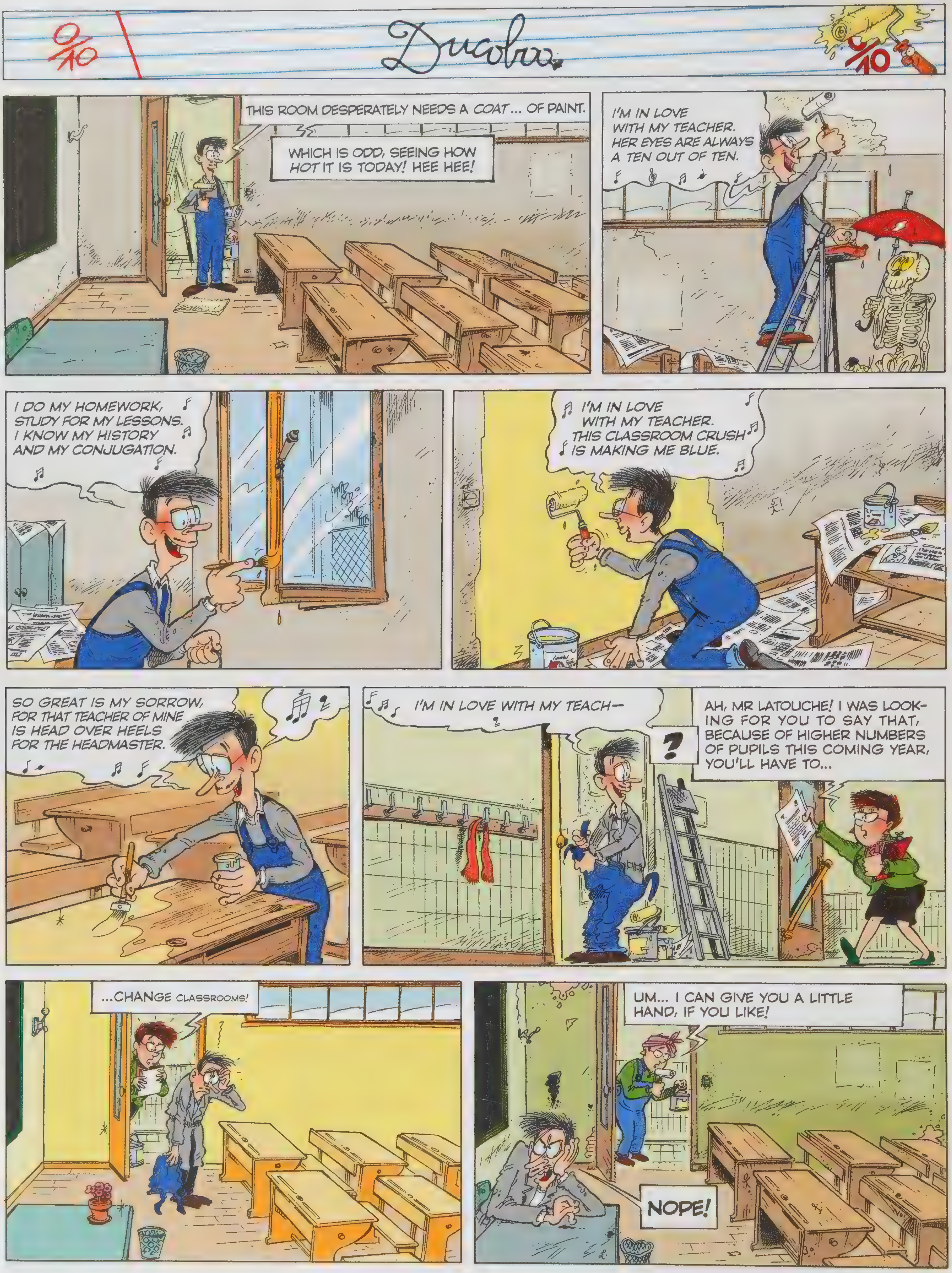
Ducobu
SO, YOU'RE WITH THE STATISTICAL DIVISION AT THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT?
YES, AS I OFTEN SAY: THE UNEMPLOYED KEEP ME EMPLOYED!
HEE HEE!
HOO HOO!
PINCH ME ... I'M DREAMING!
IT MUST BE SO EXCITING, JUGGLING ALL THOSE NUMBERS!
THE ONLY NUMBER I'D GO CRAZY FOR IS TWO!
SO ... SPEAKING OF NUMBERS, MAY I REMIND YOU WE WERE LEARNING THE SEVEN-TIMES TABLE?
HEE HEE!
HOO HOO!
1X7=7 2X7=14 3X7=21
YOU MUST HAVE COME ACROSS ME IN YOUR STATISTICS ONE DAY. I WAS UNEMPLOYED MYSELF FOR A FEW MONTHS.
I DOUBT IT! I'D NEVER FORGET STATISTICS AS GORGEOUS AS YOURS!
HEE HEE!
HOO HOO!
IF THEY KEEP HEE-HEEING AND HOO-HOOING LIKE THIS, I'LL GO NUTS!
AS SURE AS 2 PLUS 2 IS 5!
SHE'S REALLY GREAT, THAT ELOCUTIONIST!
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN, DAD! YOU'VE MADE AMAZING PROGRESS WITH HER!

0/10
Ducoboo
IF YOU MISS HIM SO MUCH, WRITE TO HIM!
SCHOOL
YOU'RE RIGHT! IN LIFE, WE MUST BE BRAVE ENOUGH TO SAY WHAT WE FEEL!
Ducoboo,
Like a dog in the night, my heart
is howling for you. I cannot go on:
how I hate these summer days that tear us apart.
I must declare my passion to you.
The thermometer shows 32° Celsius in the shade
but, so far from your eyes, of cold I shall die!
Yours, Leonie Gratin
WOW! TAKE IT EASY! YOU MIGHT SCARE HIM OFF IF YOU'RE TOO BLUNT.
YOU'RE RIGHT. I SHOULD TONE IT DOWN A LITTLE!
SCRATCH! SCRATCH!
YEAH... STILL A BIT TOO LYRICAL, MAYBE?
YOU'RE RIGHT. LET'S KEEP PRUNING IT!
SCRATCH! SCRATCH!
YOU SEE, A DECLARATION OF LOVE HAS TO BE LIKE AN ADVERTISING SLOGAN: PITHY AND PUNCHY.
YOU'RE RIGHT. THE SHORTER, THE MORE EFFECTIVE!
SCRATCH! SCRATCH! SCRATCH!
Ducoboo,
dog
I
hate
you.
die!
Leonie Gratin

0/10
Ducobu
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT!
ON THE RADIO, THEY SAID ALL OF NORTHERN EUROPE'S AFFECTED.
THE ENTIRE RAILWAY NETWORK'S PARALYSED, APPARENTLY.
CHUFF! CHUFF!
I STILL THINK IT ALL HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH POLLUTION.
SEASONS USED TO BE CLEAR-CUT: SNOW IN DECEMBER, SUNBATHING IN JULY.
DON'T KNOW WHICH WEATHER FORECAST TO TRUST THESE DAYS!
REMINDS ME OF '87: WE CELEBRATED NEW YEAR'S EVE OUTSIDE, IN SHORT SLEEVES. OUTSIDE! IN SHORT SLEEVES! CAN YOU IMAGINE?
WHAT AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENING! THERE WAS THAT STUNNING SOUTH AMERICAN DANCING THE TANGO...
PLOOM! PLOOM! DZING! PLOOM!
WHAT WAS HER NAME AGAIN?
OK! FINE! CH-CHATTER! WILL YOU JUST GET ME OUT OF HERE?! BRRR!
STILL, A FROST LIKE THIS IN AUGUST... I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT!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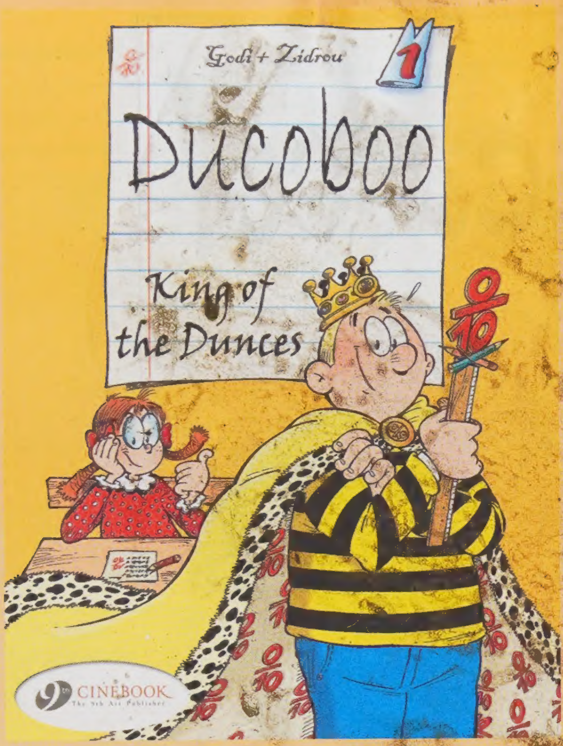
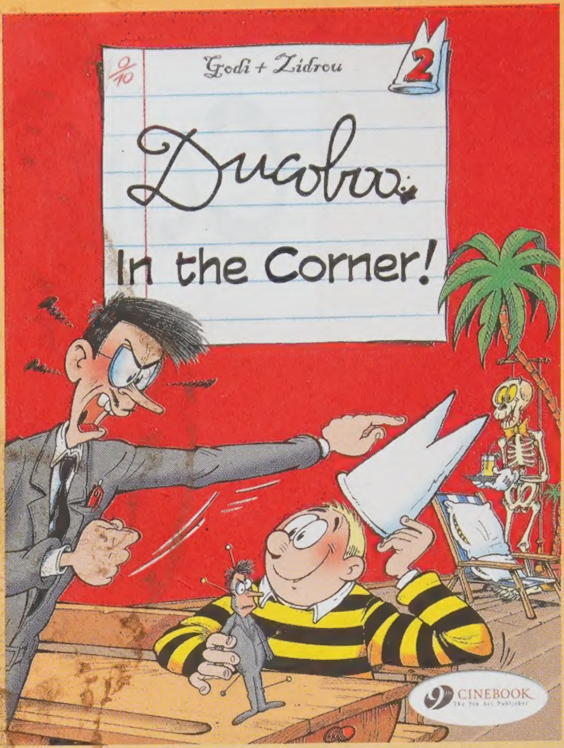
Ducobu
0/10
THIS ROOM DESPERATELY NEEDS A COAT... OF PAINT.
WHICH IS ODD, SEEING HOW HOT IT IS TODAY! HEE HEE!
I'M IN LOVE WITH MY TEACHER. HER EYES ARE ALWAYS A TEN OUT OF TEN.
I DO MY HOMEWORK, STUDY FOR MY LESSONS. I KNOW MY HISTORY AND MY CONJUGATION.
I'M IN LOVE WITH MY TEACHER. THIS CLASSROOM CRUSH IS MAKING ME BLUE.
SO GREAT IS MY SORROW, FOR THAT TEACHER OF MINE IS HEAD OVER HEELS FOR THE HEADMASTER.
I'M IN LOVE WITH MY TEACH—
?
AH, MR LATOUCHE! I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU TO SAY THAT, BECAUSE OF HIGHER NUMBERS OF PUPILS THIS COMING YEAR, YOU'LL HAVE TO...
...CHANGE CLASSROOMS!
UM... I CAN GIVE YOU A LITTLE HAND, IF YOU LIKE!
NOPE!

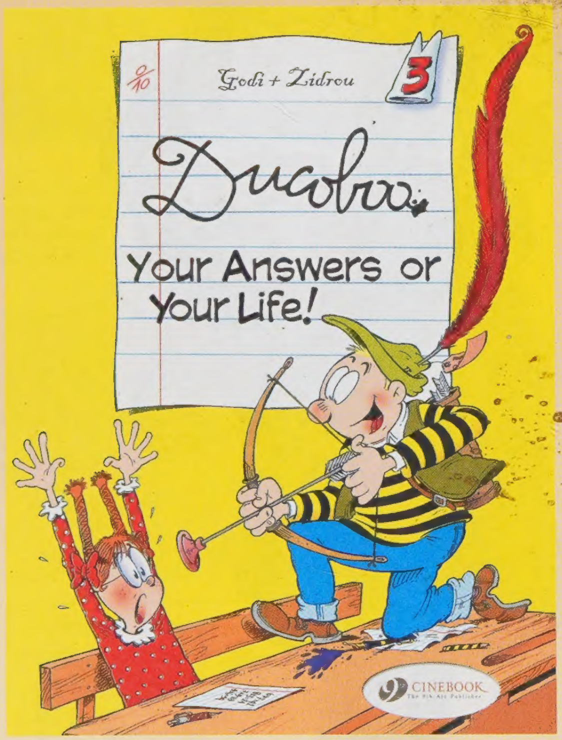
Confiscated!
Nooo!
Anything but that! I will do my homework, I will learn my times tables, I will stop copying my neighbour. But have pity on me, don't confiscate my Ducoboo!



1 - King of the Dunces



2 - In the Corner!



3 - Your Answers or Your Life!

4 - The Class Struggle

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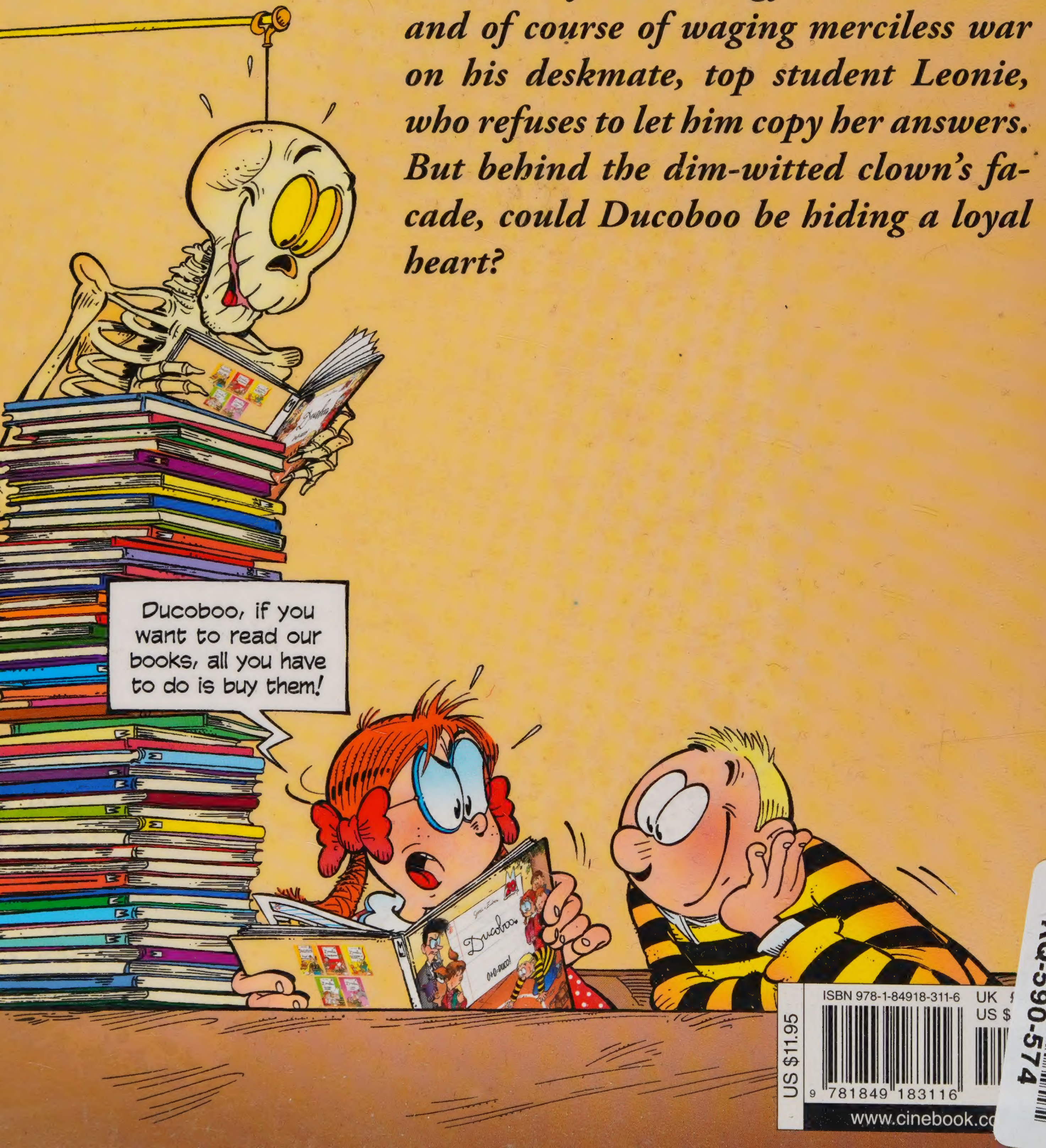
A new year approaches for pitifully inept student Ducoboo, dunce extraordinaire and notorious troublemaker. A whole year of enduring Mr Latouche's punishments, of sharing the dunce cap with Skelly, the biology class skeleton, and of course of waging merciless war on his deskmate, top student Leonie, who refuses to let him copy her answers. But behind the dim-witted clown's facade, could Ducoboo be hiding a loyal heart?



ISBN 978-1-84918-311-6
US $11.95
9 781849 183116
www.cinebook.co

KQ-590-574